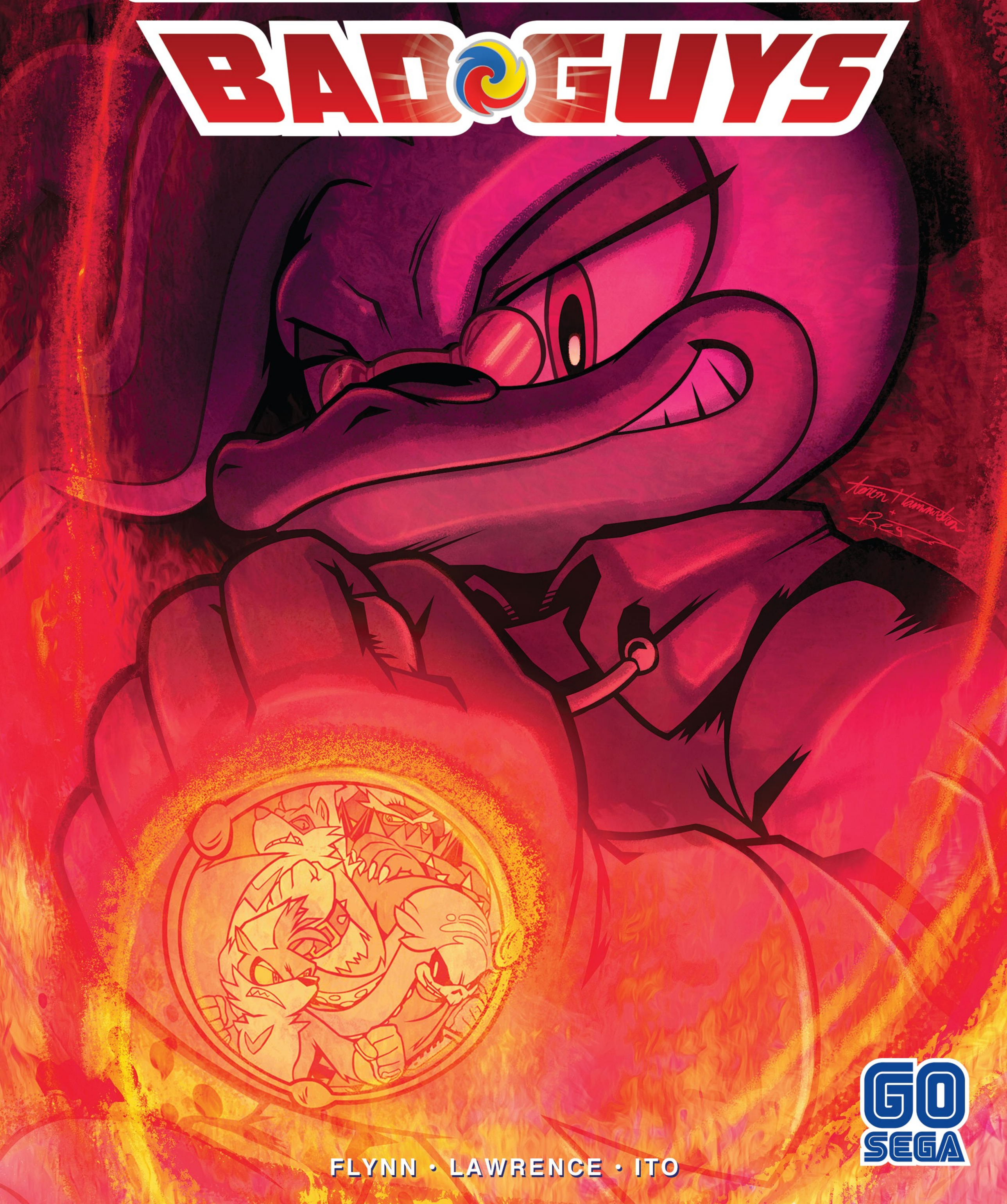
IDW

1

COVER A

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

BAD GUYS



FLYNN • LAWRENCE • ITO

GO SEGA

STORY **IAN FLYNN** ART **JACK LAWRENCE**

COLORS **LEONARDO ITO** LETTERS **SHAWN LEE**

ASSISTANT EDITOR **RILEY FARMER** EDITOR **DAVID MARIOTTE**

Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

For international rights, contact **licensing@idwpublishing.com**

IDW®
www.IDWPUBLISHING.com

Jerry Bennington, President • **Nachie Marsham**, Publisher • **Cara Morrison**, Chief Financial Officer • **Matthew Ruzicka**, Chief Accounting Officer • **Rebekah Cahalin**, EVP of Operations • **John Barber**, Editor-in-Chief • **Justin Eisinger**, Editorial Director, Graphic Novels & Collections • **Scott Dunbier**, Director, Special Projects • **Blake Kobashigawa**, VP of Sales • **Lorelei Bunjes**, VP of Technology & Information Services • **Anna Morrow**, Sr Marketing Director • **Tara McCrillis**, Director of Design & Production • **Mike Ford**, Director of Operations • **Shauna Monteforte**, Manufacturing Operations Director

Ted Adams and **Robbie Robbins**, IDW Founders

SEGA®

Facebook: **facebook.com/idwpublishing** • Twitter: **@idwpublishing**
YouTube: **youtube.com/idwpublishing** Tumblr: **tumblr.idwpublishing.com**
Instagram: **instagram.com/idwpublishing**

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG: BAD GUYS ISSUE #1. SEPTEMBER 2020. ©SEGA. All rights reserved. SEGA is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. SEGA and SONIC THE HEDGEHOG are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION. © 2020 Idea and Design Works, LLC. All Rights Reserved. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego, CA 92106. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

"EGG BASE SIGMA...

"...A MODEST INDUSTRIAL SITE BY THE EGGMAN EMPIRE'S STANDARDS..."

...BUT IT HAS PRECISELY WHAT I NEED FOR MY PLANS.

DR. EGGMAN MAY BE A GENIUS, BUT HE'S *SLOPPY*. I'LL USE MY PERSONAL LOGIN AND TAKE OVER THE BASE.

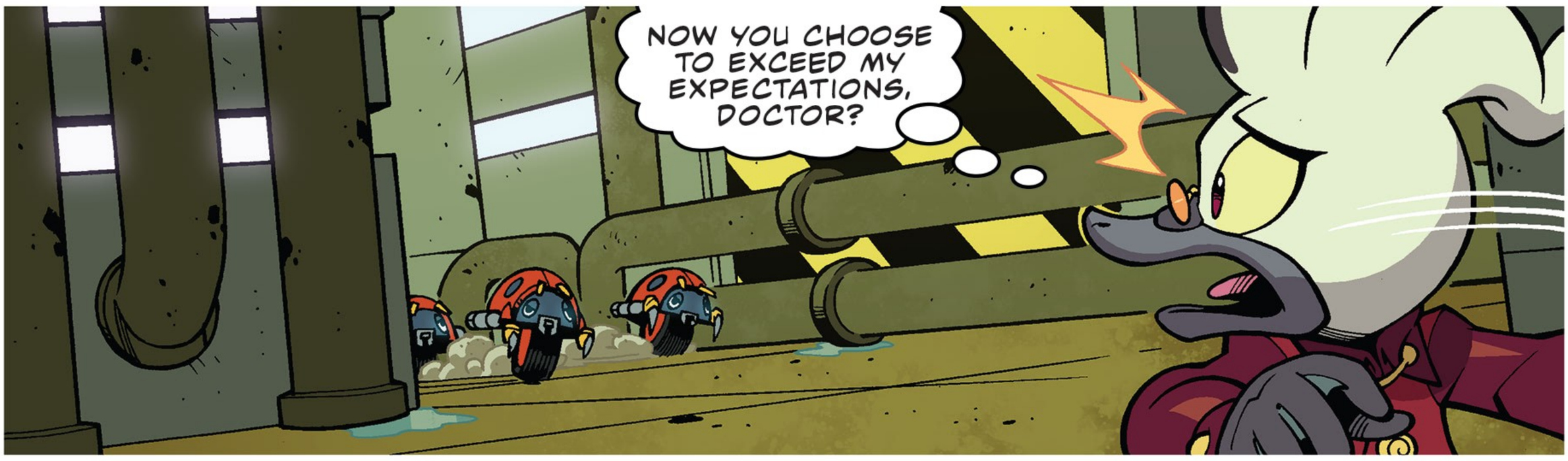
ENTER PASSWORD

***

I HATE SNEAKING AROUND LIKE VERMIN, BUT I'M IN NO POSITION TO FIGHT MY WAY THROUGH THE SECURITY...

AWOOGA AWOOGA

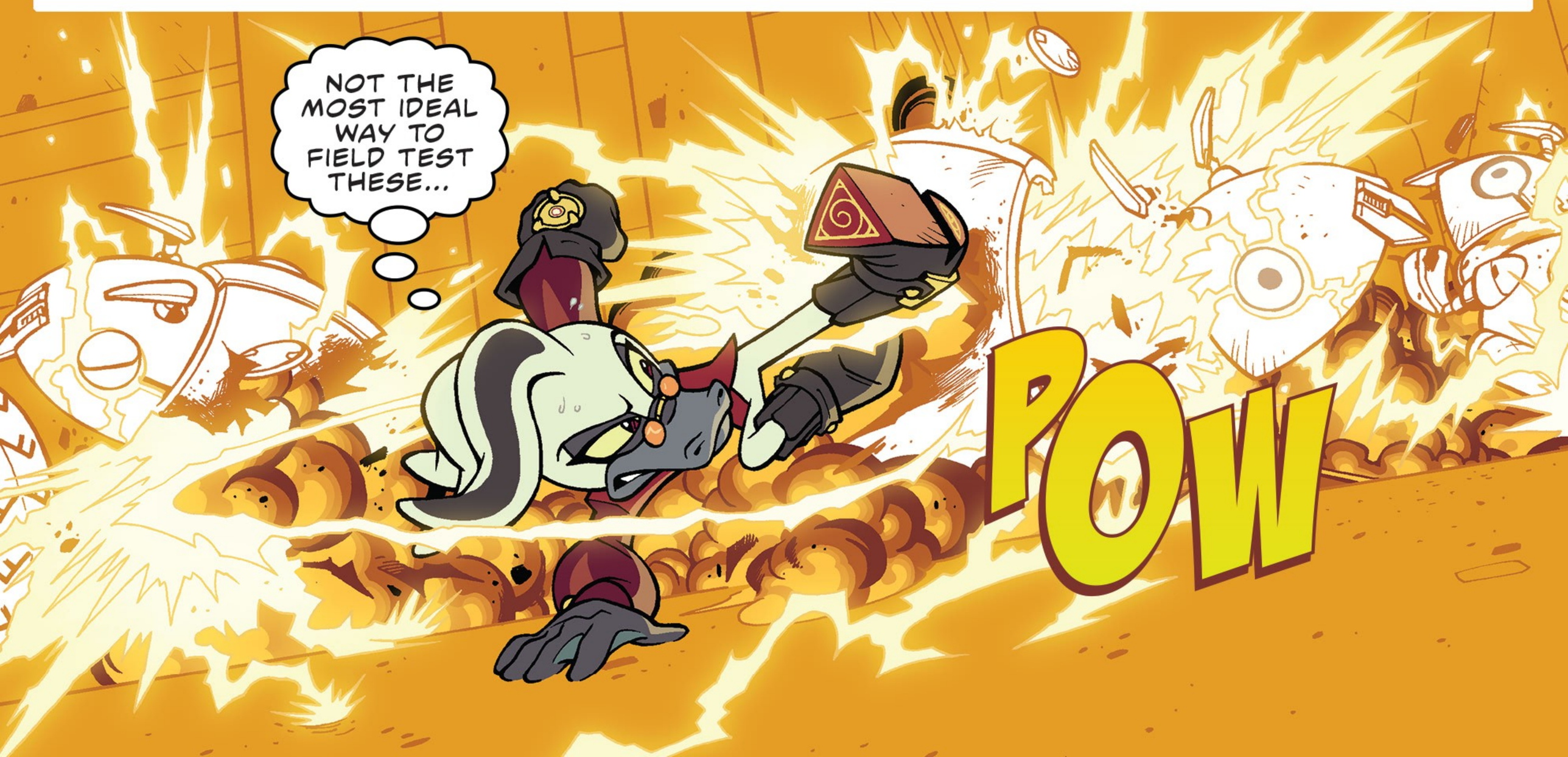
PASSWORD REJECTED

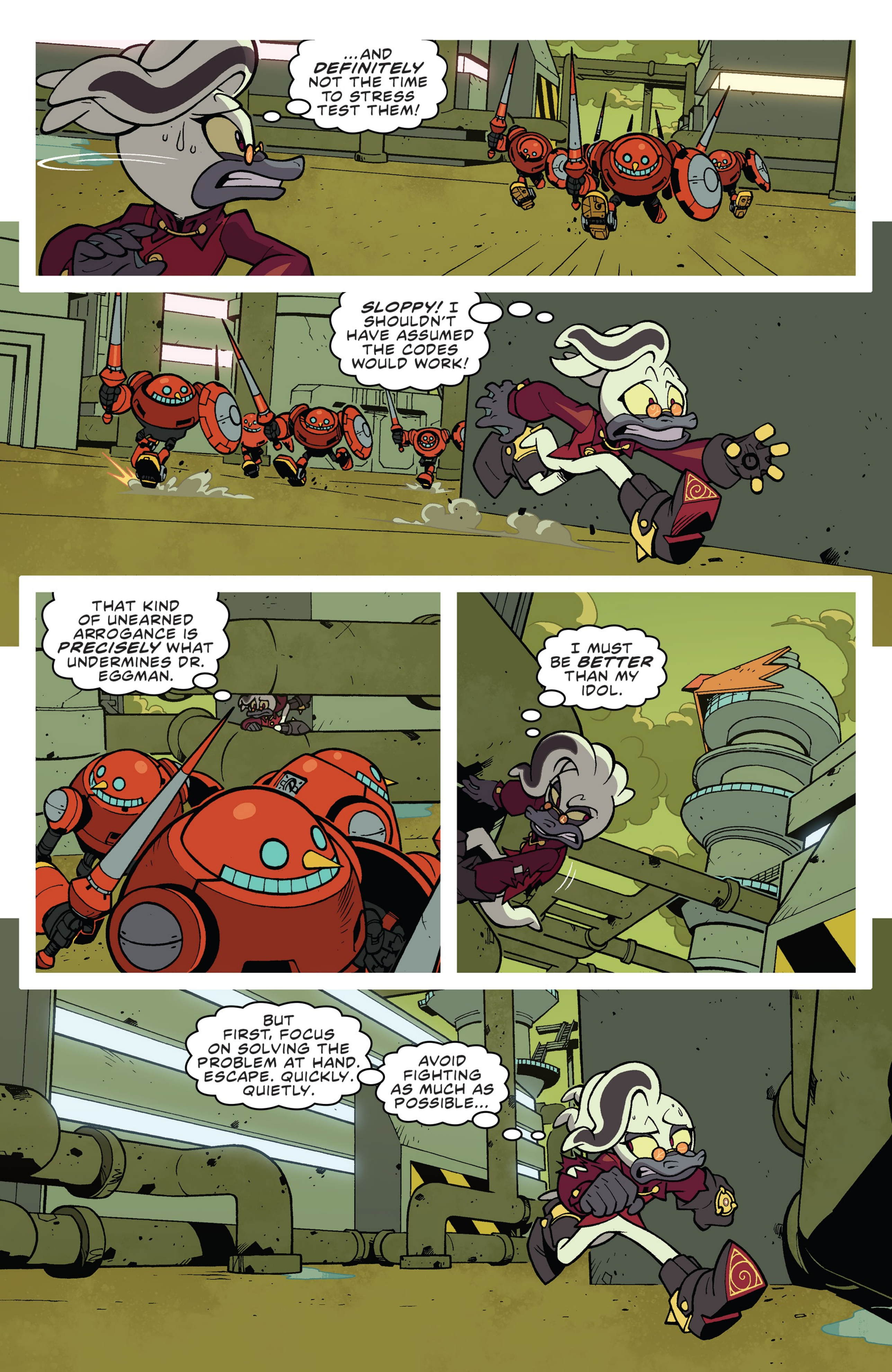

NOW YOU CHOOSE TO EXCEED MY EXPECTATIONS, DOCTOR?

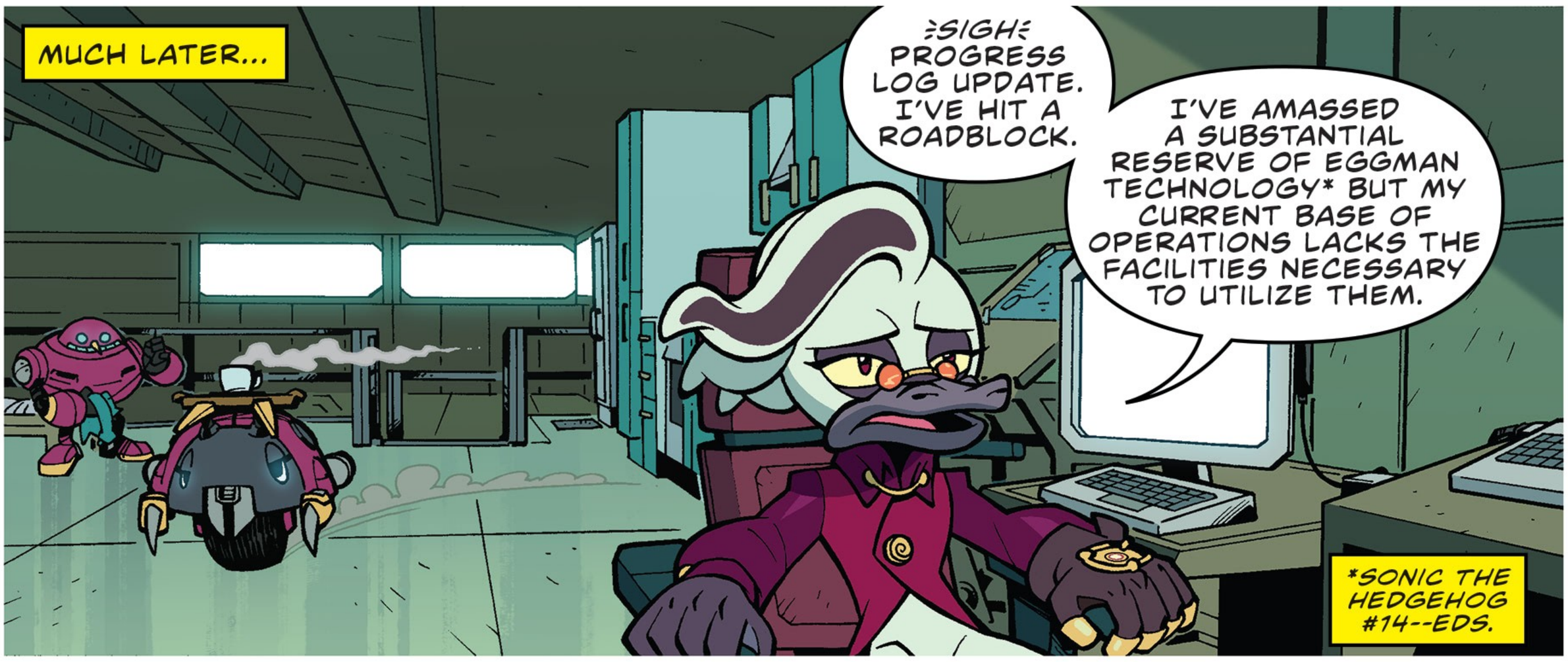
NO MATTER. I'LL JUST WARP BACK TO BASE, REGROUP, AND...

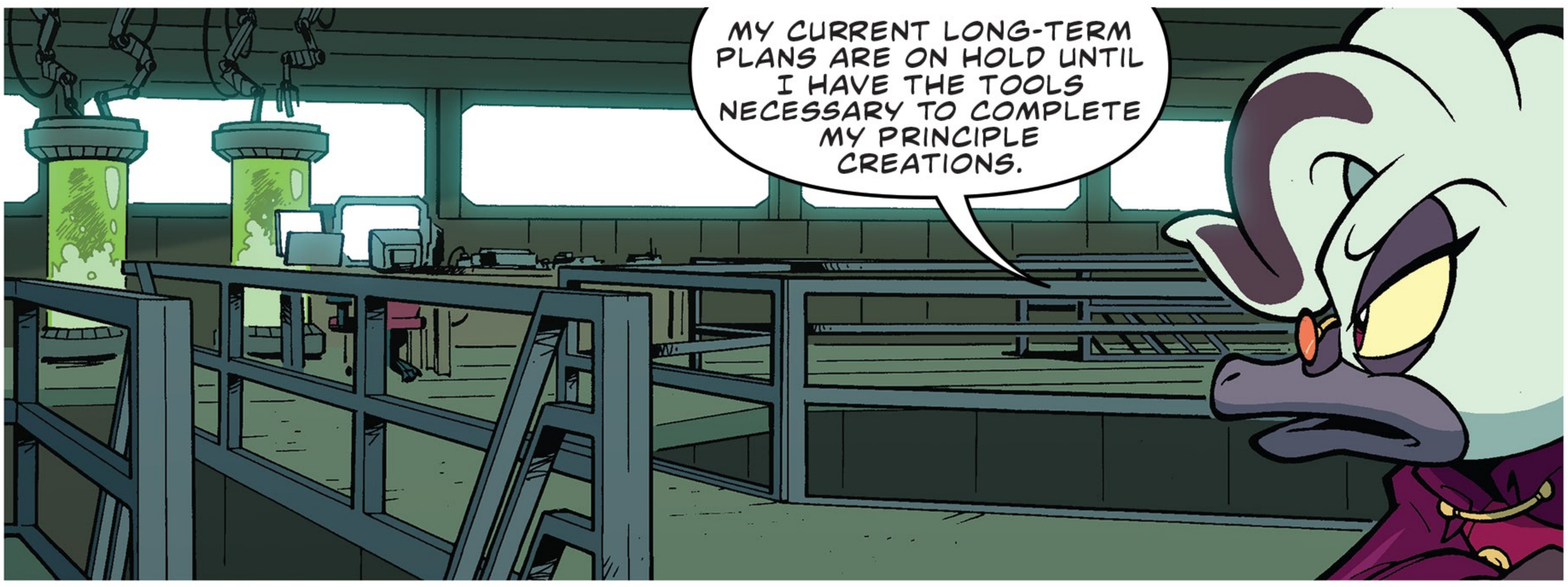
...DRAT. FORCE OF HABIT.

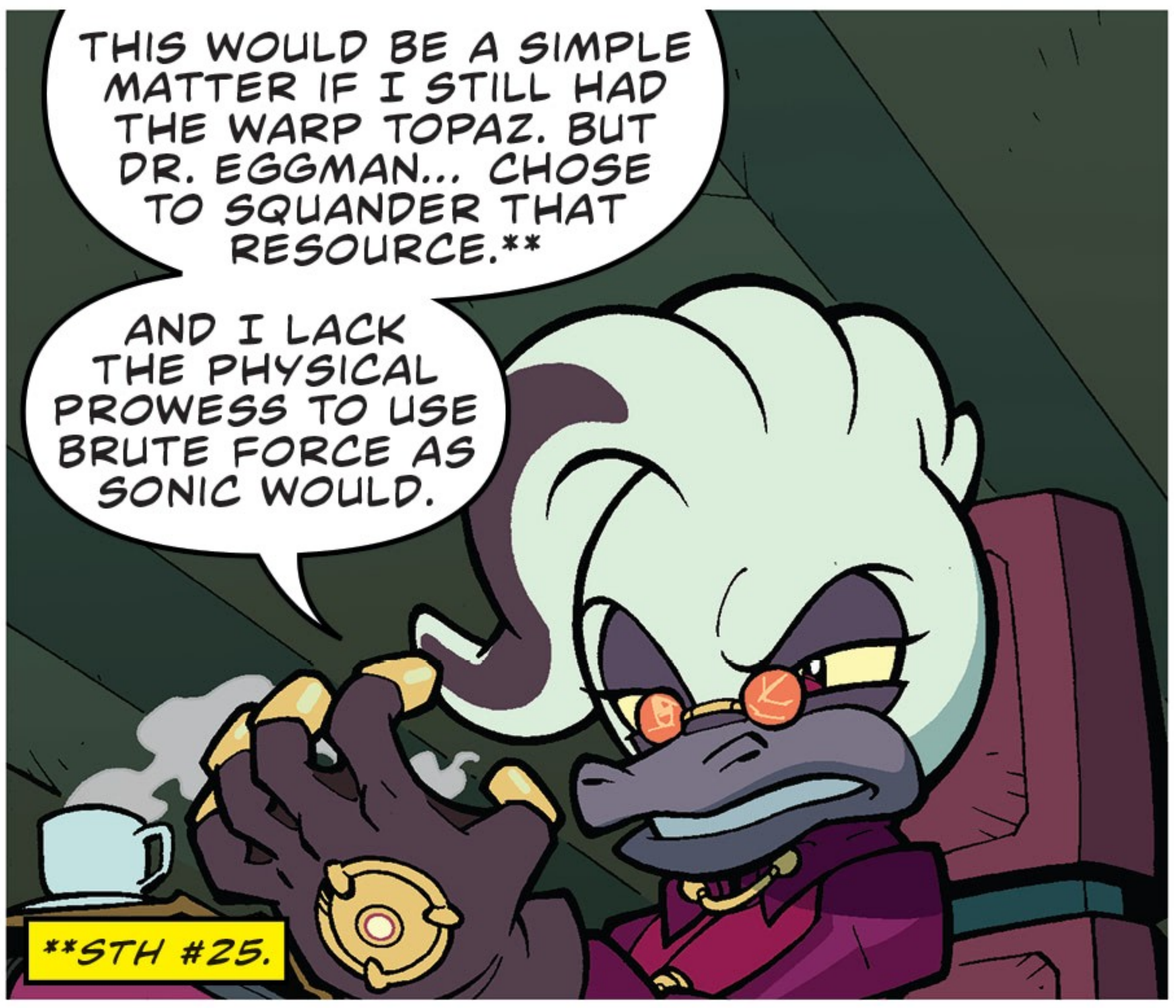
TIME TO TEST OUT THE MULTI-TOOL HEEL SPURS!
ACTIVATING ELECTRO-SPUR...

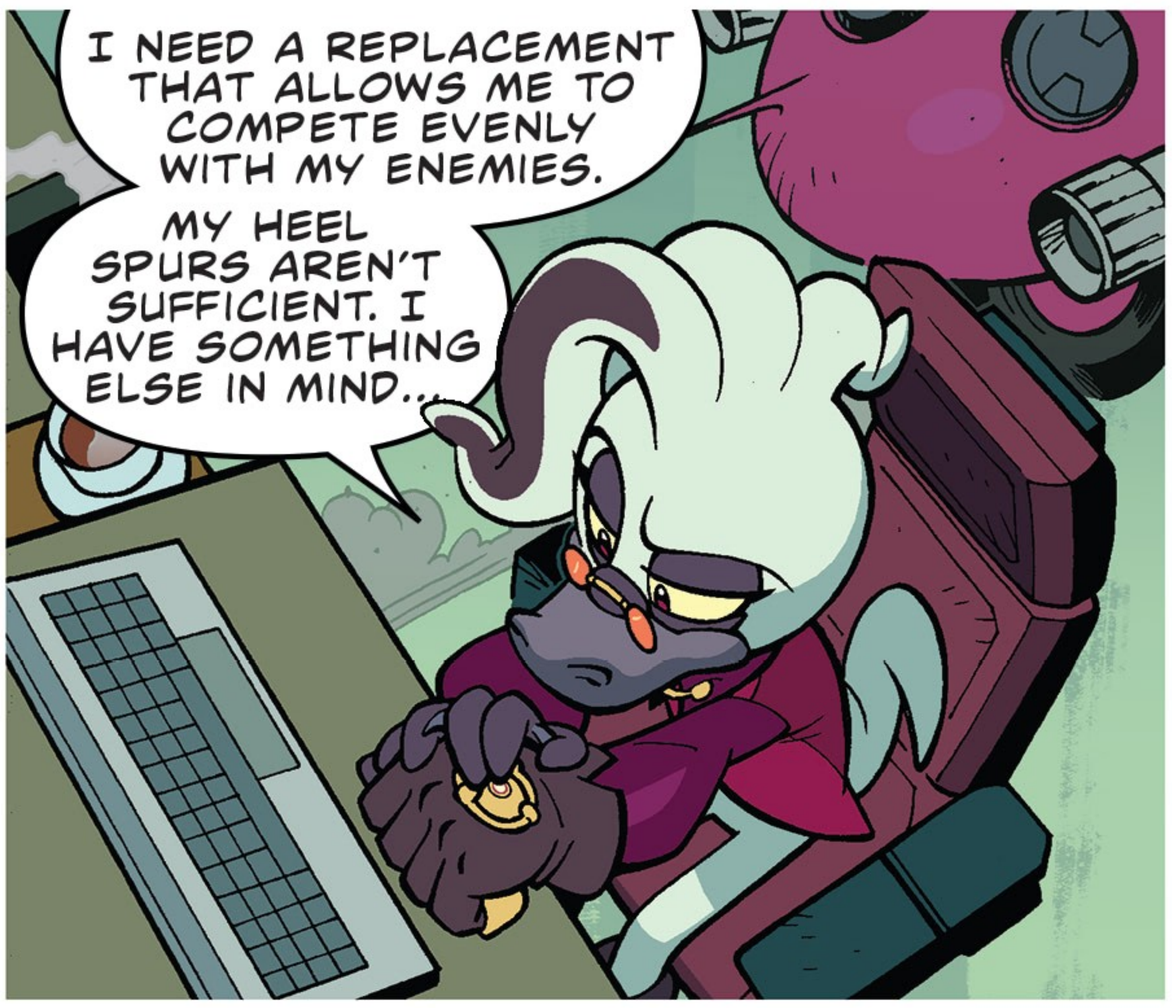

NOT THE MOST IDEAL WAY TO FIELD TEST THESE...
POW

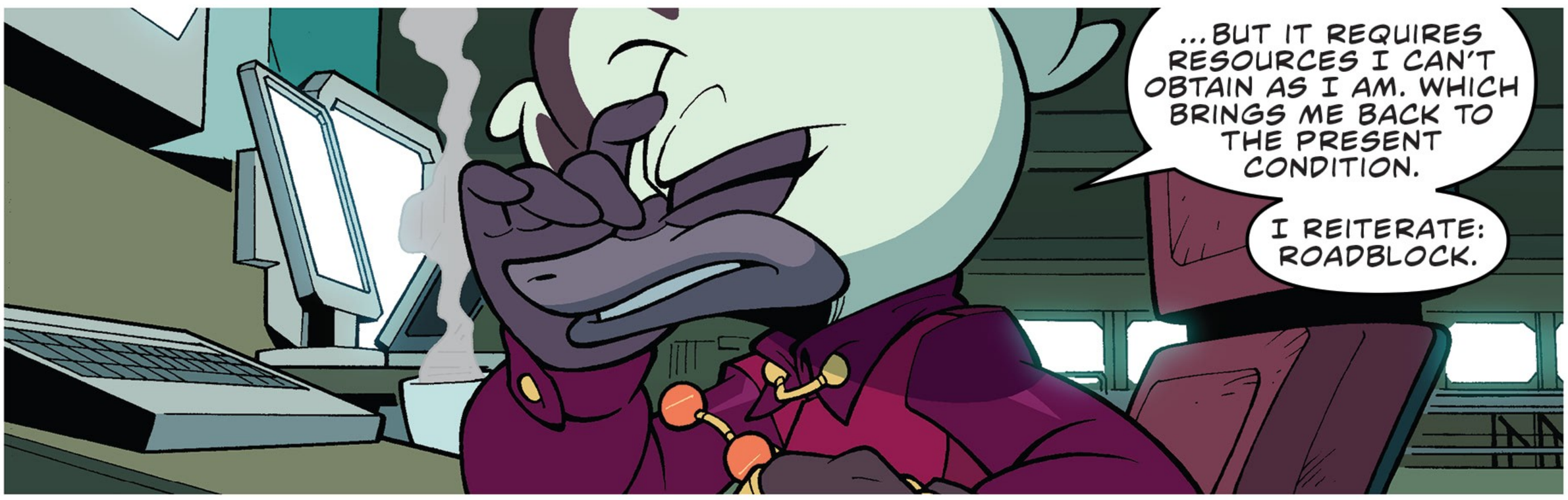

...AND DEFINITELY NOT THE TIME TO STRESS TEST THEM!
SLOPPY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASSUMED THE CODES WOULD WORK!
THAT KIND OF UNEARNED ARROGANCE IS PRECISELY WHAT UNDERMINES DR. EGGMAN.
I MUST BE BETTER THAN MY IDOL.
BUT FIRST, FOCUS ON SOLVING THE PROBLEM AT HAND. ESCAPE. QUICKLY. QUIETLY.
AVOID FIGHTING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...

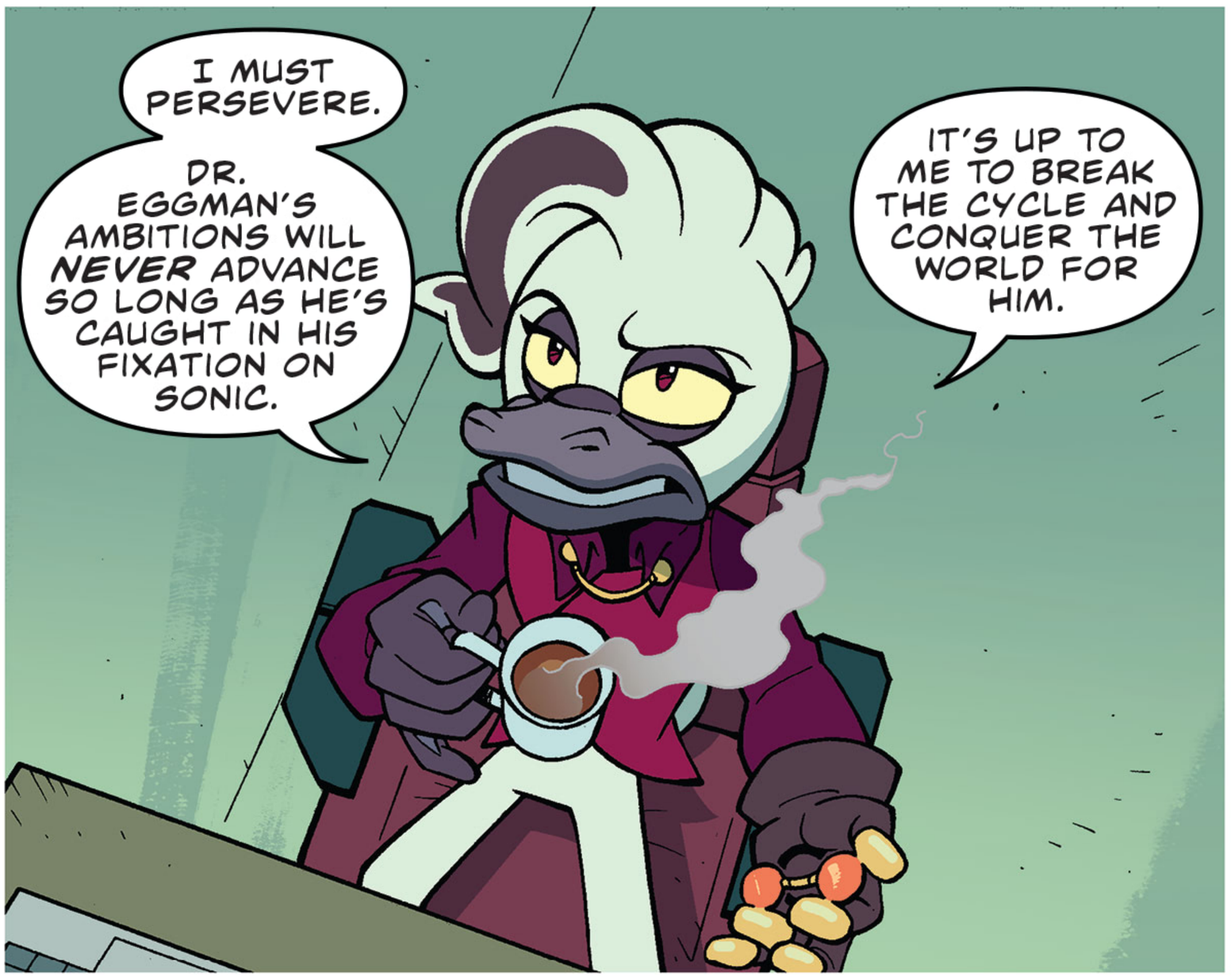

MUCH LATER...
=SIGH= PROGRESS LOG UPDATE. I'VE HIT A ROADBLOCK.
I'VE AMASSED A SUBSTANTIAL RESERVE OF EGGMAN TECHNOLOGY* BUT MY CURRENT BASE OF OPERATIONS LACKS THE FACILITIES NECESSARY TO UTILIZE THEM.
*SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #14--EDS.


MY CURRENT LONG-TERM PLANS ARE ON HOLD UNTIL I HAVE THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE MY PRINCIPLE CREATIONS.


THIS WOULD BE A SIMPLE MATTER IF I STILL HAD THE WARP TOPAZ. BUT DR. EGGMAN... CHOSE TO SQUANDER THAT RESOURCE.**
AND I LACK THE PHYSICAL PROWESS TO USE BRUTE FORCE AS SONIC WOULD.
**STH #25.

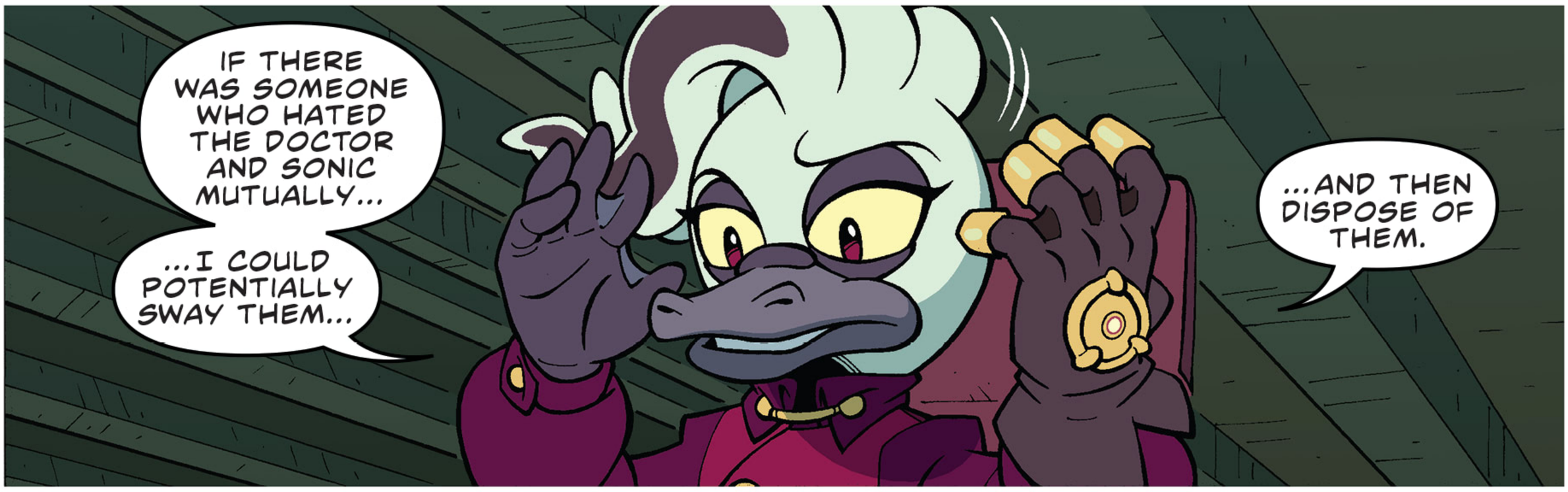

I NEED A REPLACEMENT THAT ALLOWS ME TO COMPETE EVENLY WITH MY ENEMIES.
MY HEEL SPURS AREN'T SUFFICIENT. I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND...


...BUT IT REQUIRES RESOURCES I CAN'T OBTAIN AS I AM. WHICH BRINGS ME BACK TO THE PRESENT CONDITION.
I REITERATE: ROADBLOCK.


I MUST PERSEVERE.
DR. EGGMAN'S AMBITIONS WILL NEVER ADVANCE SO LONG AS HE'S CAUGHT IN HIS FIXATION ON SONIC.
IT'S UP TO ME TO BREAK THE CYCLE AND CONQUER THE WORLD FOR HIM.

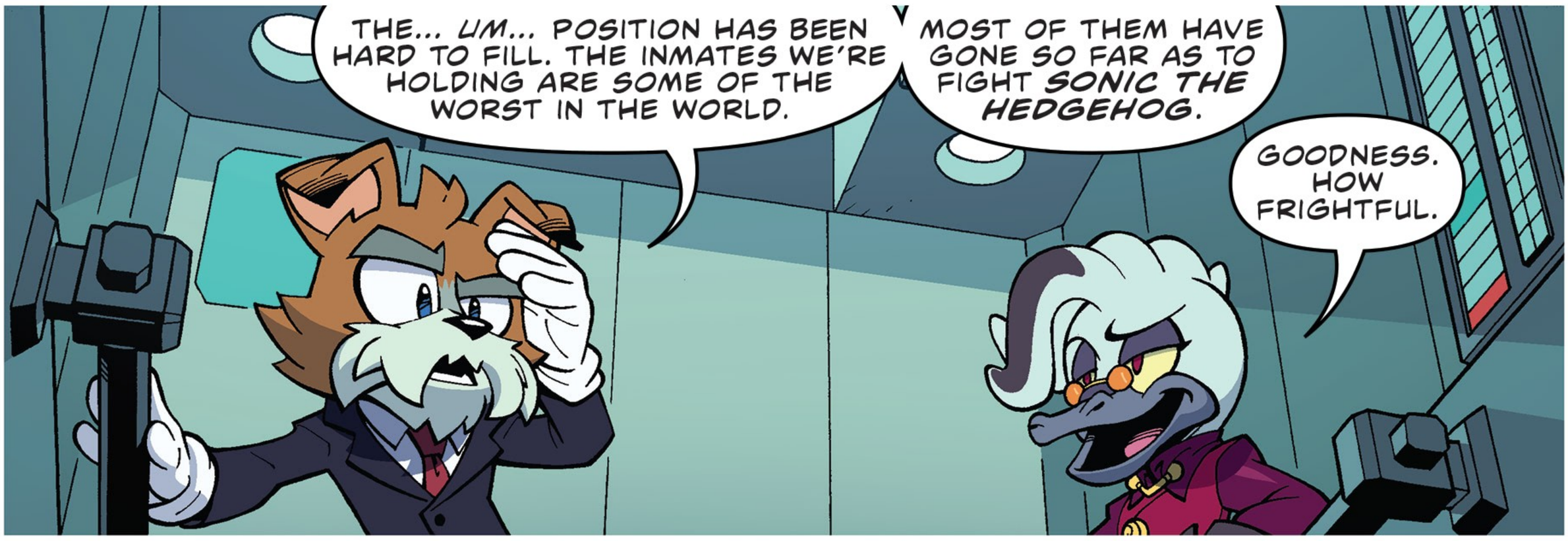
WHICH IS EXPONENTIALLY MORE DIFFICULT, SINCE I AM NO LONGER IN HIS GOOD GRACES.

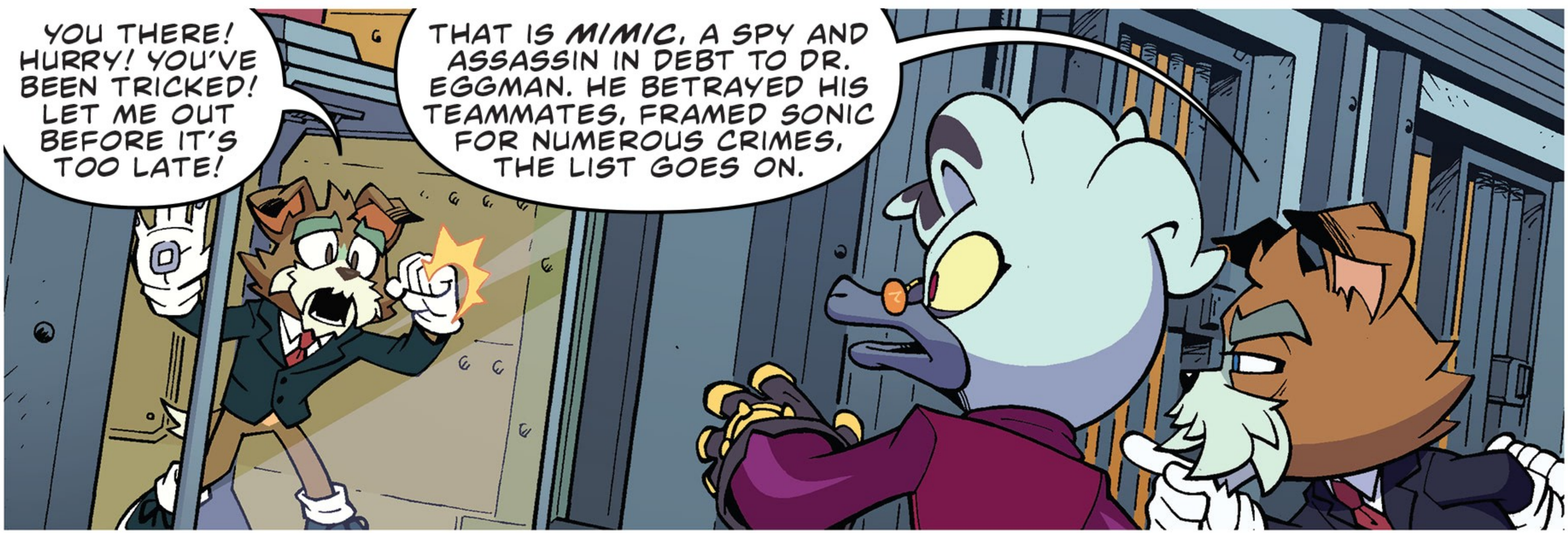
BADNIKS ARE LIMITED IN THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. MY PERSONAL ENFORCERS CAN'T BE COMPLETED UNTIL I HAVE THAT BASE.
I NEED HELP. BUT I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE THE MISTAKE OF A TRUSTING PARTNERSHIP AGAIN.


IF THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO HATED THE DOCTOR AND SONIC MUTUALLY...
...I COULD POTENTIALLY SWAY THEM...
...AND THEN DISPOSE OF THEM.

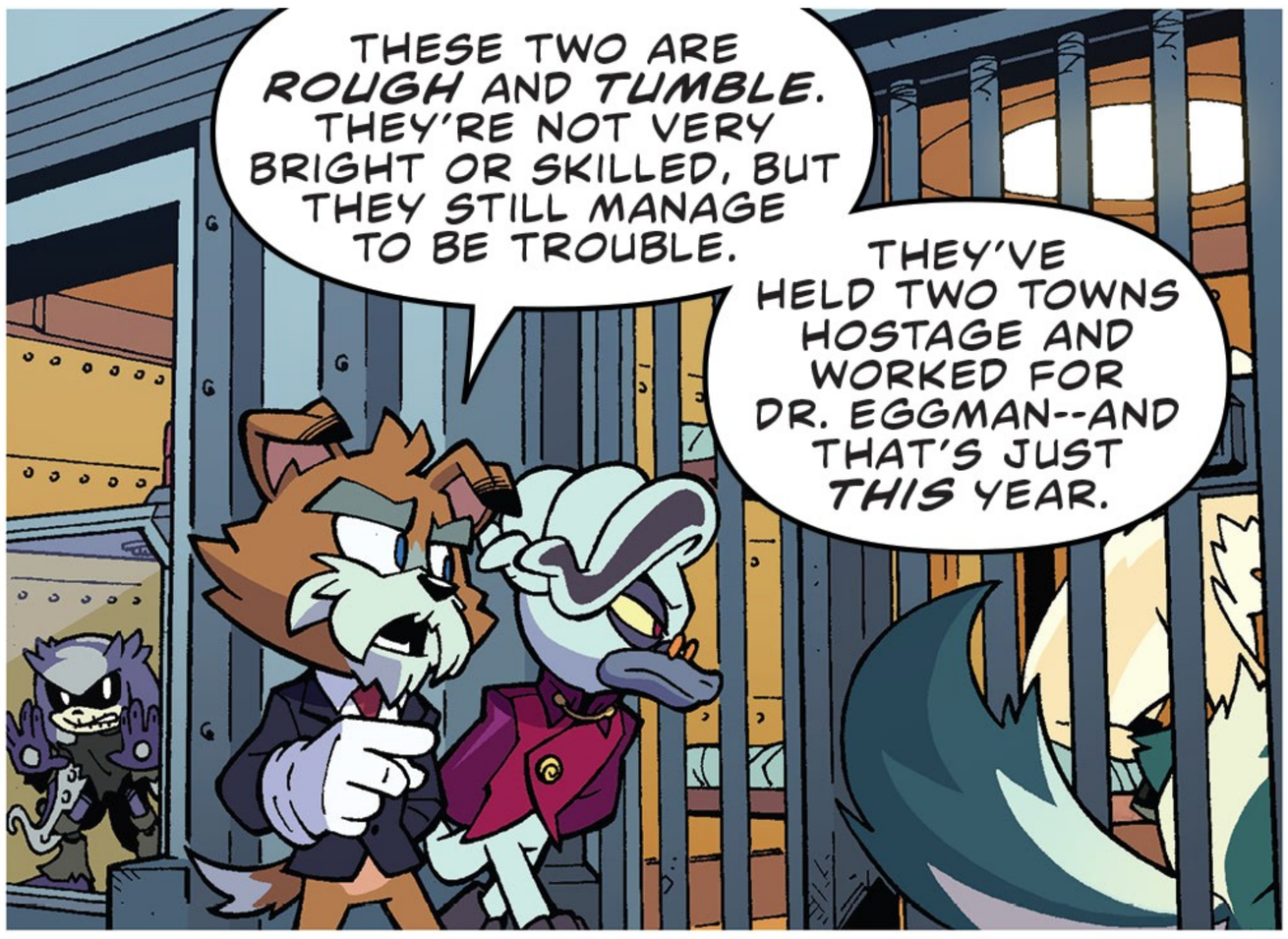
EUREKA.

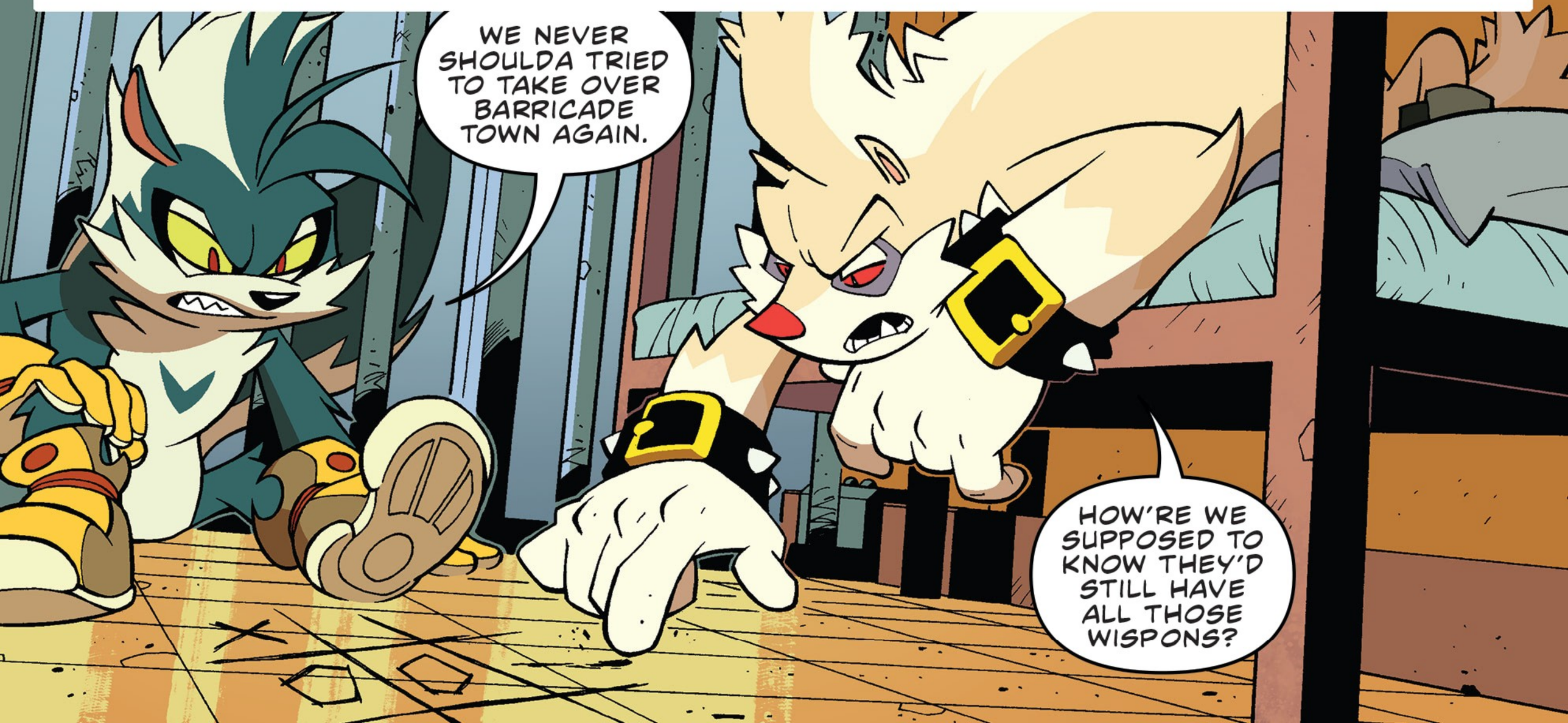
EVERHOLD PRISON.
WHO ARE YOU? WHO LET YOU IN?!
PLEASE, CALM YOURSELF, WARDEN...
...I'M HERE FOR THE JOB INTERVIEW, REMEMBER? THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WING. I THINK MY RESUME MEETS YOUR REQUIREMENTS.
OH, YES. THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR.
LET'S HEAD THERE NOW. DON'T FORGET THE KEYS, MM?
OF COURSE. I LIKE YOUR ENTHUSIASM.


THE... UM... POSITION HAS BEEN HARD TO FILL. THE INMATES WE'RE HOLDING ARE SOME OF THE WORST IN THE WORLD.
MOST OF THEM HAVE GONE SO FAR AS TO FIGHT SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.
GOODNESS. HOW FRIGHTFUL.

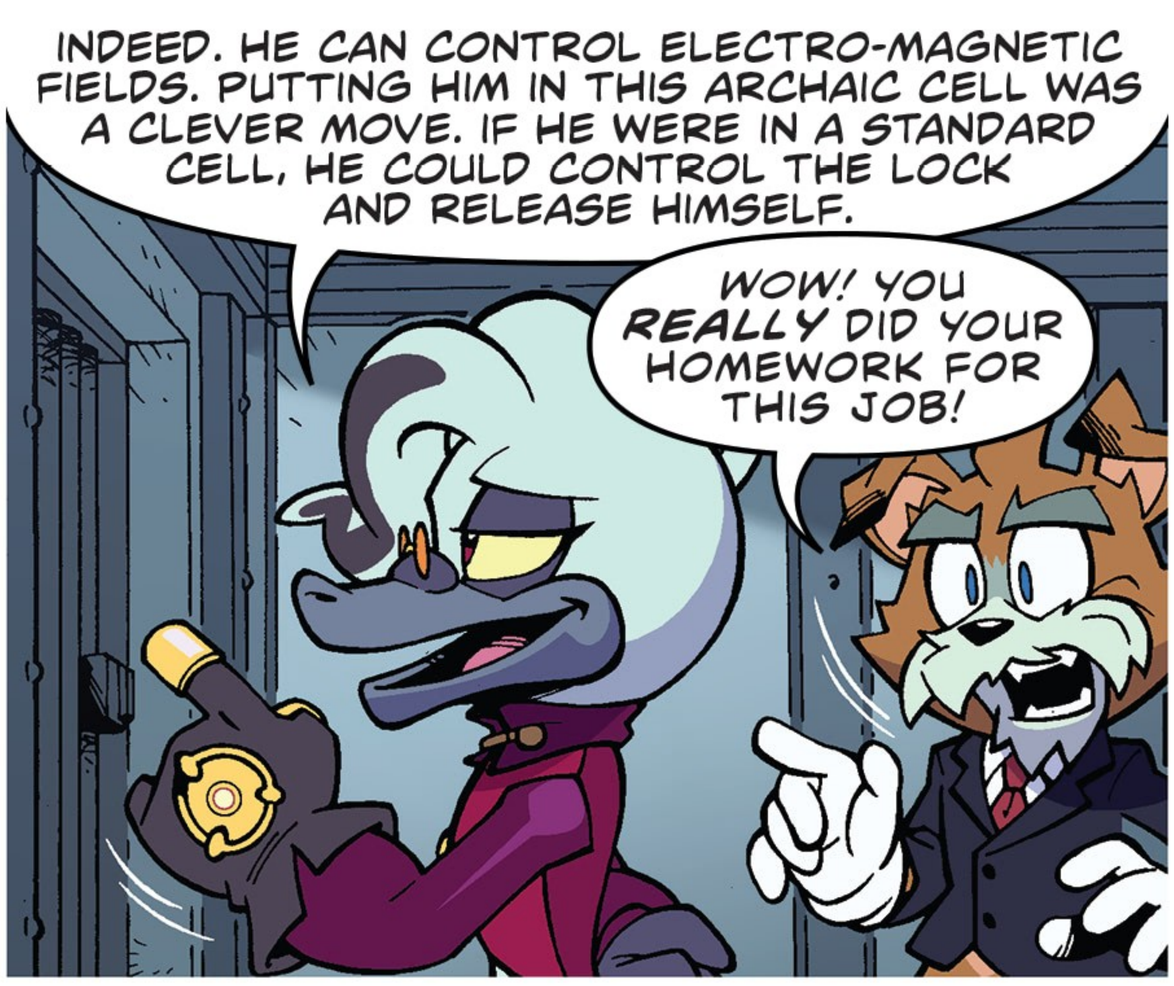

YOU THERE! HURRY! YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED! LET ME OUT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
THAT IS MIMIC, A SPY AND ASSASSIN IN DEBT TO DR. EGGMAN. HE BETRAYED HIS TEAMMATES, FRAMED SONIC FOR NUMEROUS CRIMES, THE LIST GOES ON.

DON'T SELL ME SHORT, WARDEN. I'M A PROFESSIONAL. I DON'T CARE IF YOU DON'T APPROVE OF MY WORK.


THESE TWO ARE ROUGH AND TUMBLE. THEY'RE NOT VERY BRIGHT OR SKILLED, BUT THEY STILL MANAGE TO BE TROUBLE.
THEY'VE HELD TWO TOWNS HOSTAGE AND WORKED FOR DR. EGGMAN--AND THAT'S JUST THIS YEAR.


WE NEVER SHOULDA TRIED TO TAKE OVER BARRICADE TOWN AGAIN.
HOW'RE WE SUPPOSED TO KNOW THEY'D STILL HAVE ALL THOSE WISPONS?

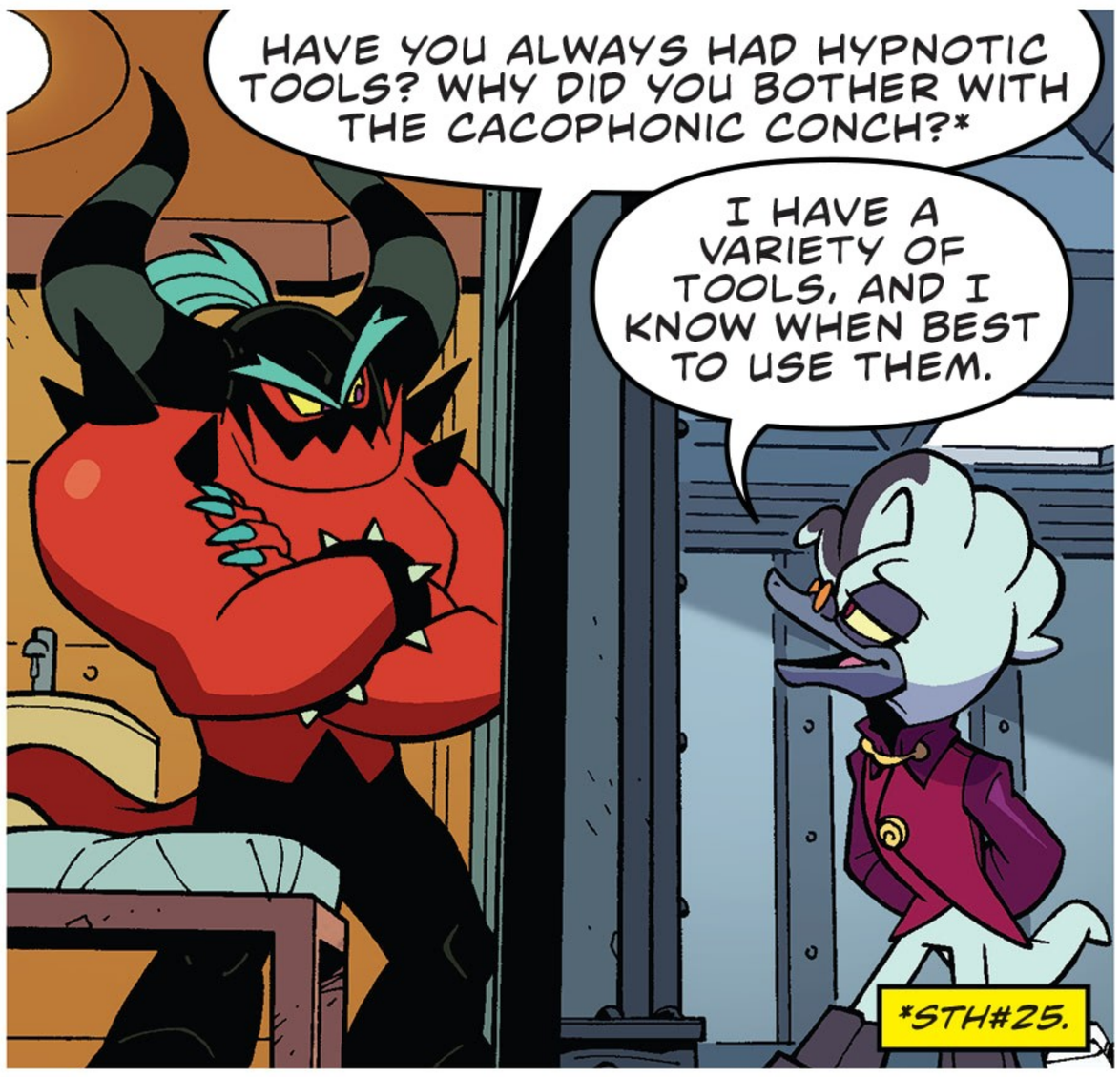
STAY BACK! THAT'S ZAVOK, THE LEADER OF THE DEADLY SIX.
HE'S A FEROCIOUS BEAST WITH INCREDIBLE POWERS.


INDEED. HE CAN CONTROL ELECTRO-MAGNETIC FIELDS. PUTTING HIM IN THIS ARCHAIC CELL WAS A CLEVER MOVE. IF HE WERE IN A STANDARD CELL, HE COULD CONTROL THE LOCK AND RELEASE HIMSELF.
WOW! YOU REALLY DID YOUR HOMEWORK FOR THIS JOB!

"JOB?" WHAT GAME ARE YOU PLAYING AT, DOCTOR?
WAIT-- YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

THAT IS DR. STARLINE. PROTÉGÉ TO DR. EGGMAN.

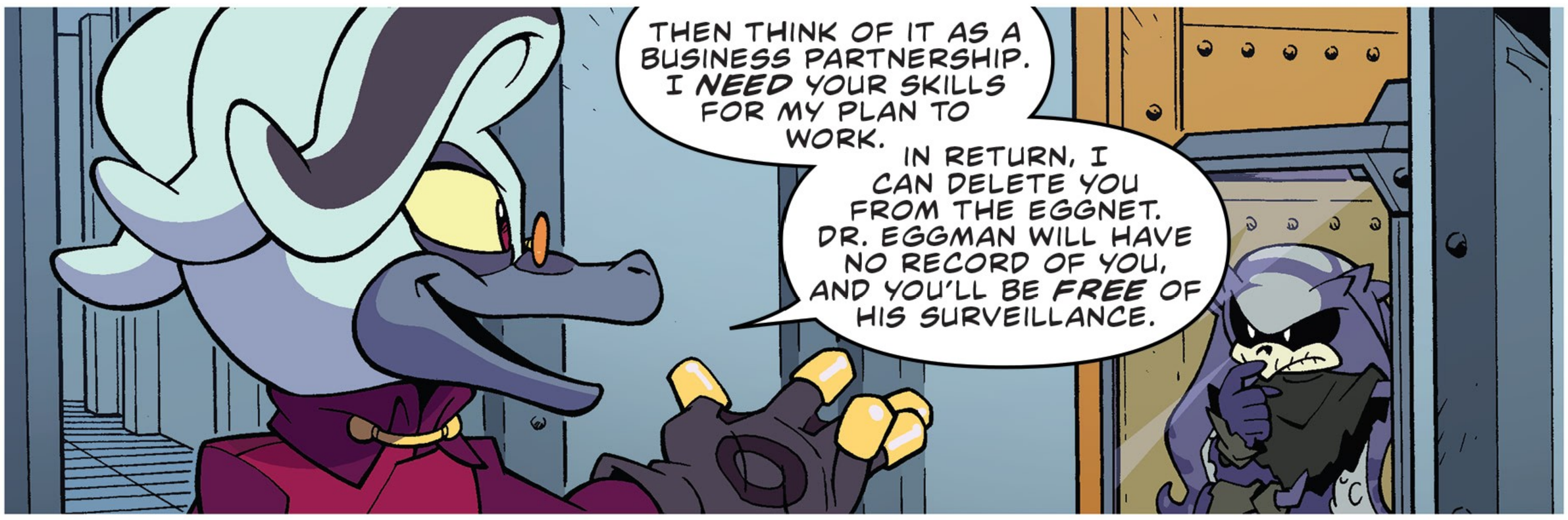
YOU--?!
SLEEP.



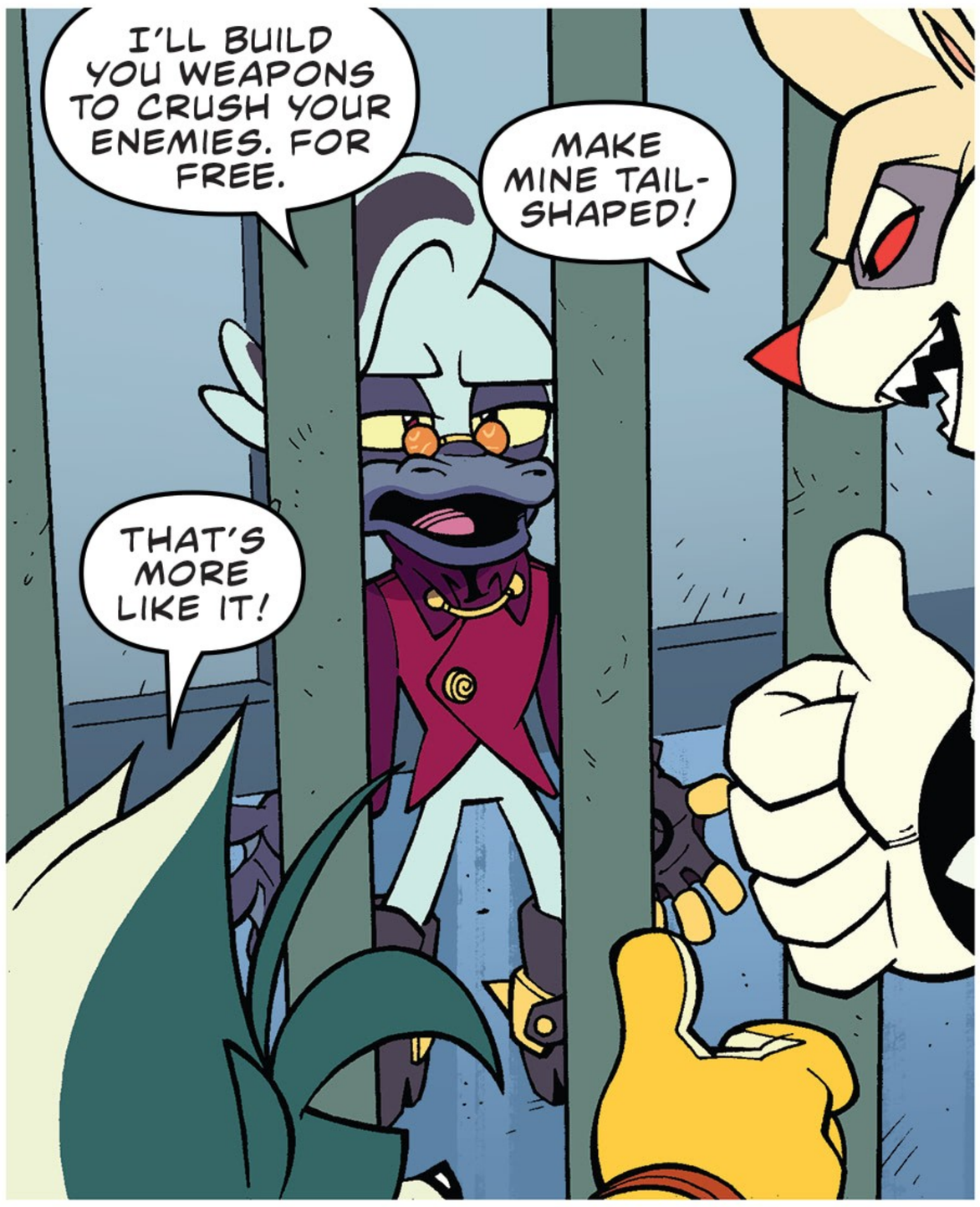
GENTLEMEN, IT HURTS TO SAY IT, BUT *I WAS WRONG*.

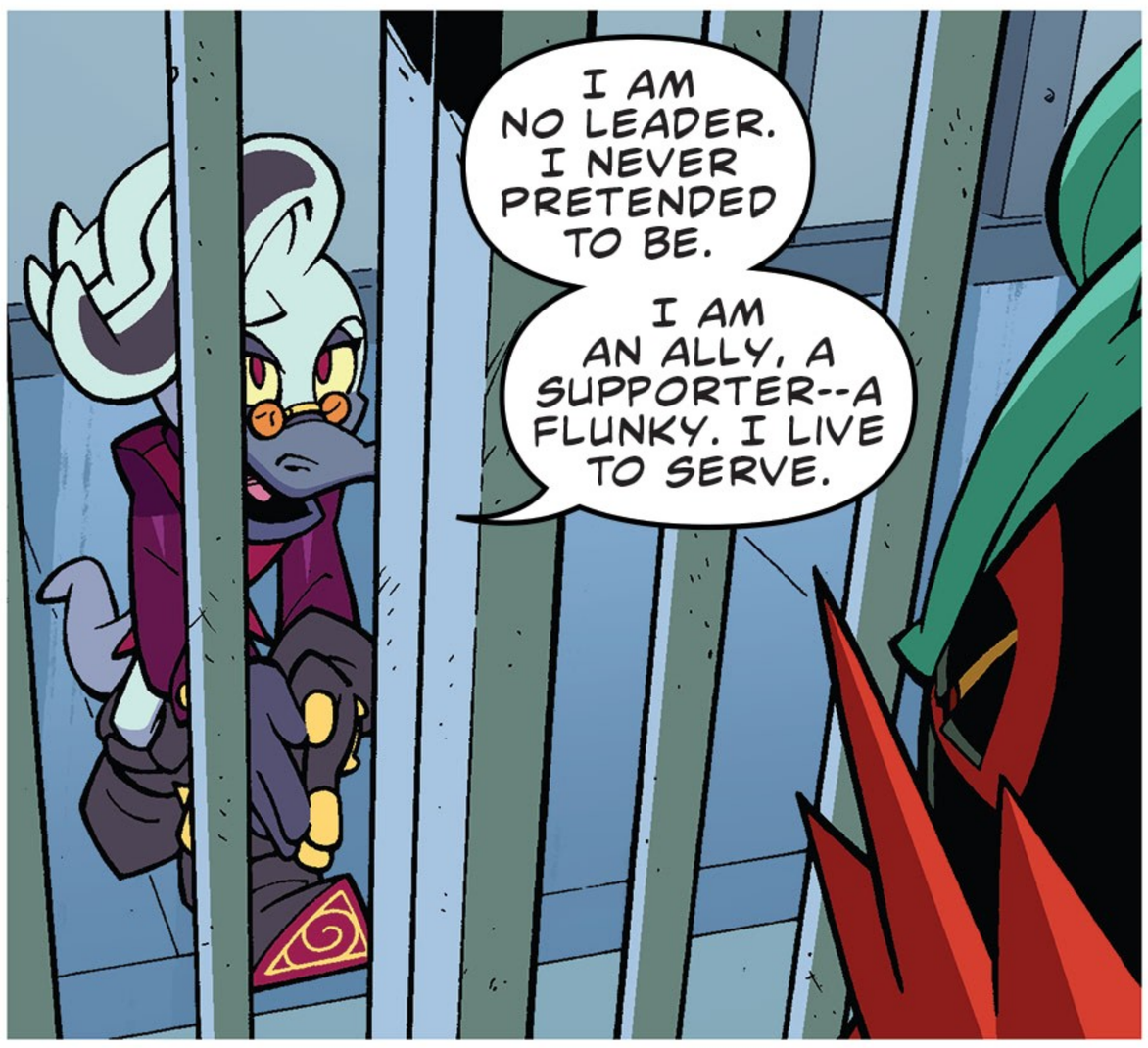
DR. EGGMAN IS *NOT* THE MARVEL I THOUGHT HE WAS. HE *USED* ME, JUST LIKE HE'S USED ALL OF YOU.

HARD PASS.
I DON'T DO TEAMS ANYMORE.


THEN THINK OF IT AS A BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP. I NEED YOUR SKILLS FOR MY PLAN TO WORK.
IN RETURN, I CAN DELETE YOU FROM THE EGGNET. DR. EGGMAN WILL HAVE NO RECORD OF YOU, AND YOU'LL BE FREE OF HIS SURVEILLANCE.

WE AIN'T WORKING WITH YOU! YOU DUMPED METAL VIRUS GOO ON US!*
THAT WAS DR. EGGMAN'S PLAN! I HAD NO IDEA HE WOULD DO THAT TO YOU!
PULL THE OTHER ONE. WE AIN'T CHUMPS!
*STH#15.

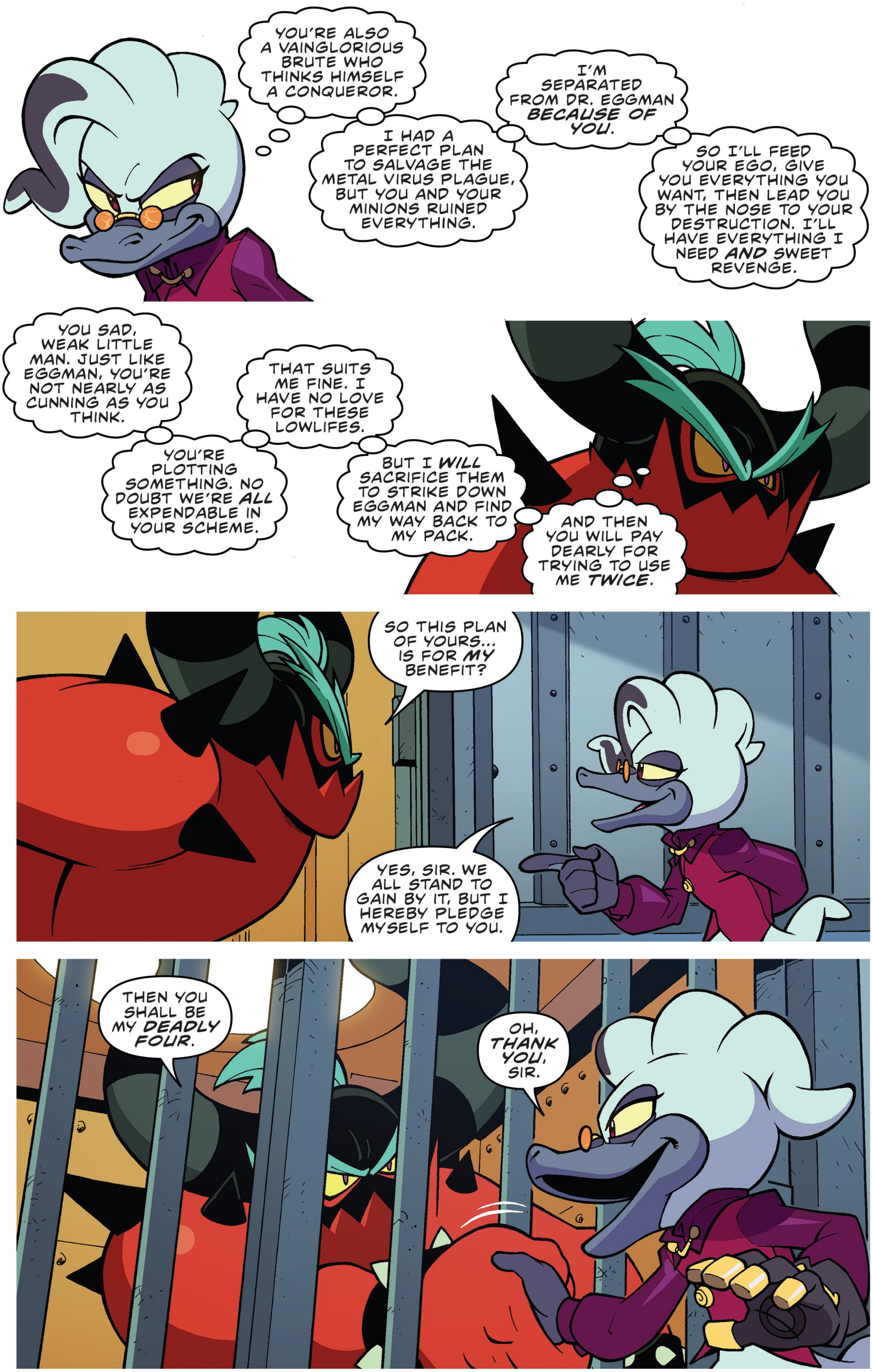

I'LL BUILD YOU WEAPONS TO CRUSH YOUR ENEMIES. FOR FREE.
MAKE MINE TAIL-SHAPED!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!



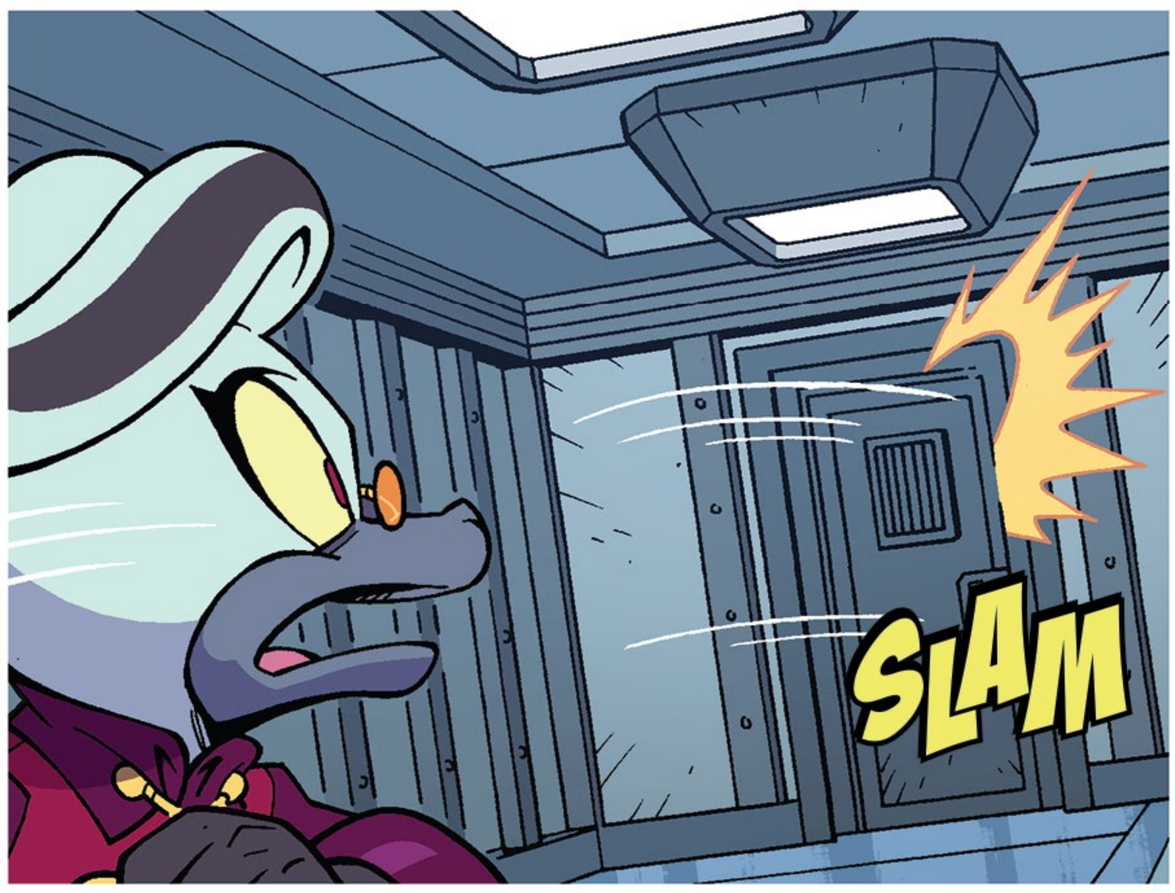
MY MISTAKE WAS FOLLOWING THE WRONG LEADER. DR. EGGMAN DEPLOYED THE METAL VIRUS HAPHAZARDLY, LETTING IT SPREAD AT RANDOM. THE MINUTE HE LOST CONTROL, HE ABANDONED HIS AMBITIONS.

BUT YOU? YOU TOOK COMMAND OF THE SITUATION INSTANTLY! YOU TOOK COMMAND OF THE ZOMBOTS WITH RUTHLESS EFFICIENCY. YOU MAXIMIZED THE POWER OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS INSTEAD OF SQUANDERING THEIR POTENTIAL!

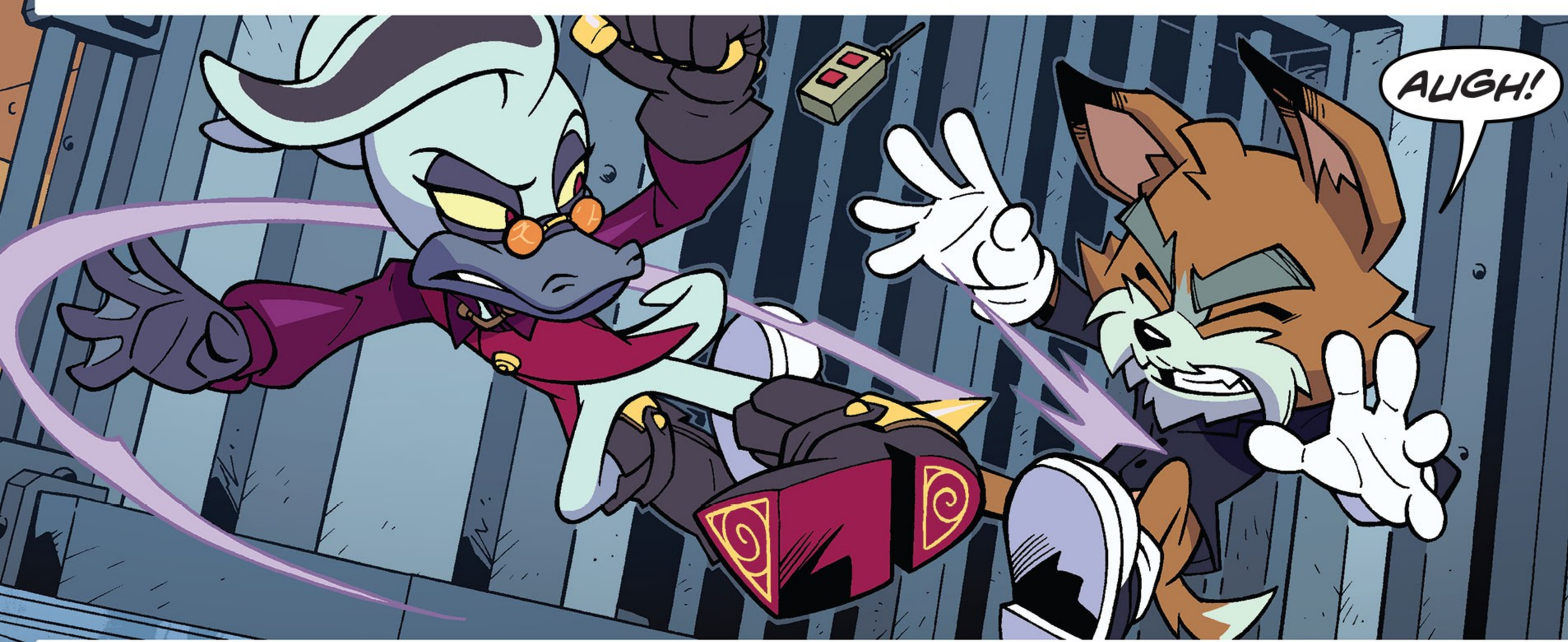
YOU ARE EVERYTHING I ADMIRED IN DR. EGGMAN AND MORE!

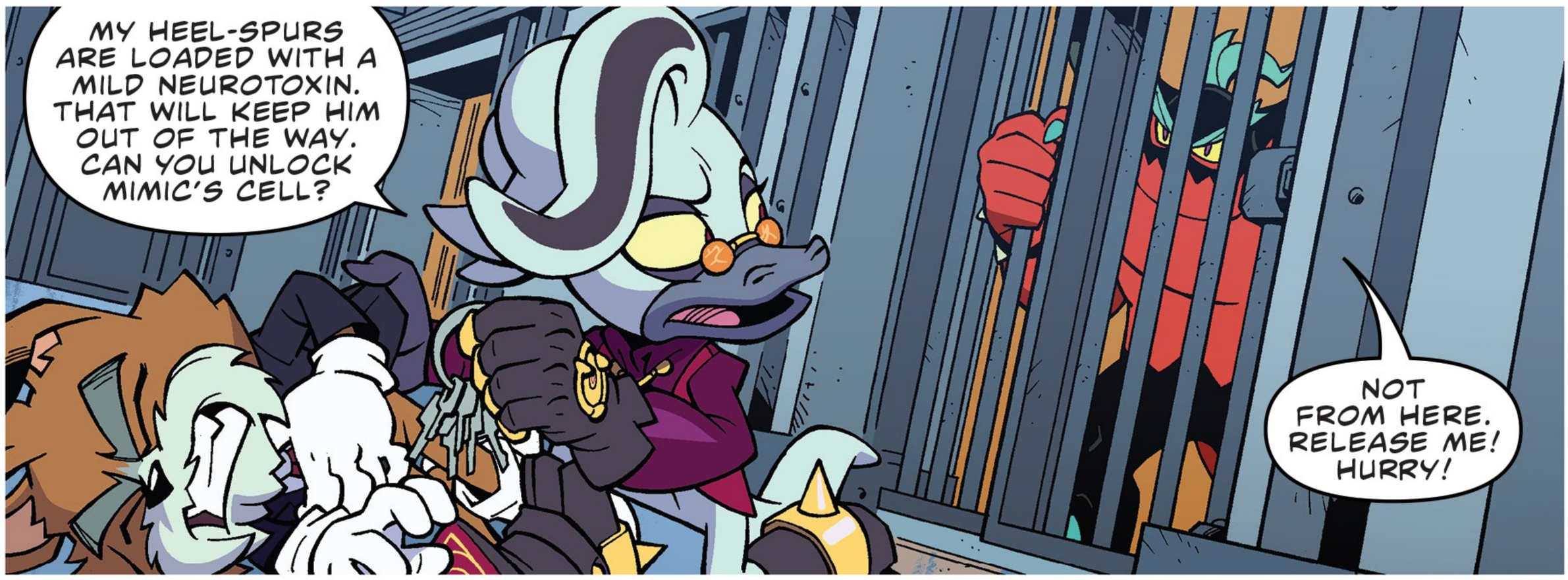

YOU'RE ALSO A VAINGLORIOUS BRUTE WHO THINKS HIMSELF A CONQUEROR.
I HAD A PERFECT PLAN TO SALVAGE THE METAL VIRUS PLAGUE, BUT YOU AND YOUR MINIONS RUINED EVERYTHING.
I'M SEPARATED FROM DR. EGGMAN BECAUSE OF YOU.
SO I'LL FEED YOUR EGO, GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU WANT, THEN LEAD YOU BY THE NOSE TO YOUR DESTRUCTION. I'LL HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED AND SWEET REVENGE.
YOU SAD, WEAK LITTLE MAN. JUST LIKE EGGMAN, YOU'RE NOT NEARLY AS CUNNING AS YOU THINK.
YOU'RE PLOTTING SOMETHING. NO DOUBT WE'RE ALL EXPENDABLE IN YOUR SCHEME.
THAT SUITS ME FINE. I HAVE NO LOVE FOR THESE LOWLIFES.
BUT I WILL SACRIFICE THEM TO STRIKE DOWN EGGMAN AND FIND MY WAY BACK TO MY PACK.
AND THEN YOU WILL PAY DEARLY FOR TRYING TO USE ME TWICE.
SO THIS PLAN OF YOURS... IS FOR MY BENEFIT?
YES, SIR. WE ALL STAND TO GAIN BY IT, BUT I HEREBY PLEDGE MYSELF TO YOU.
THEN YOU SHALL BE MY DEADLY FOUR.
OH, THANK YOU, SIR.

AWOOGA
AWOOGA


SLAM

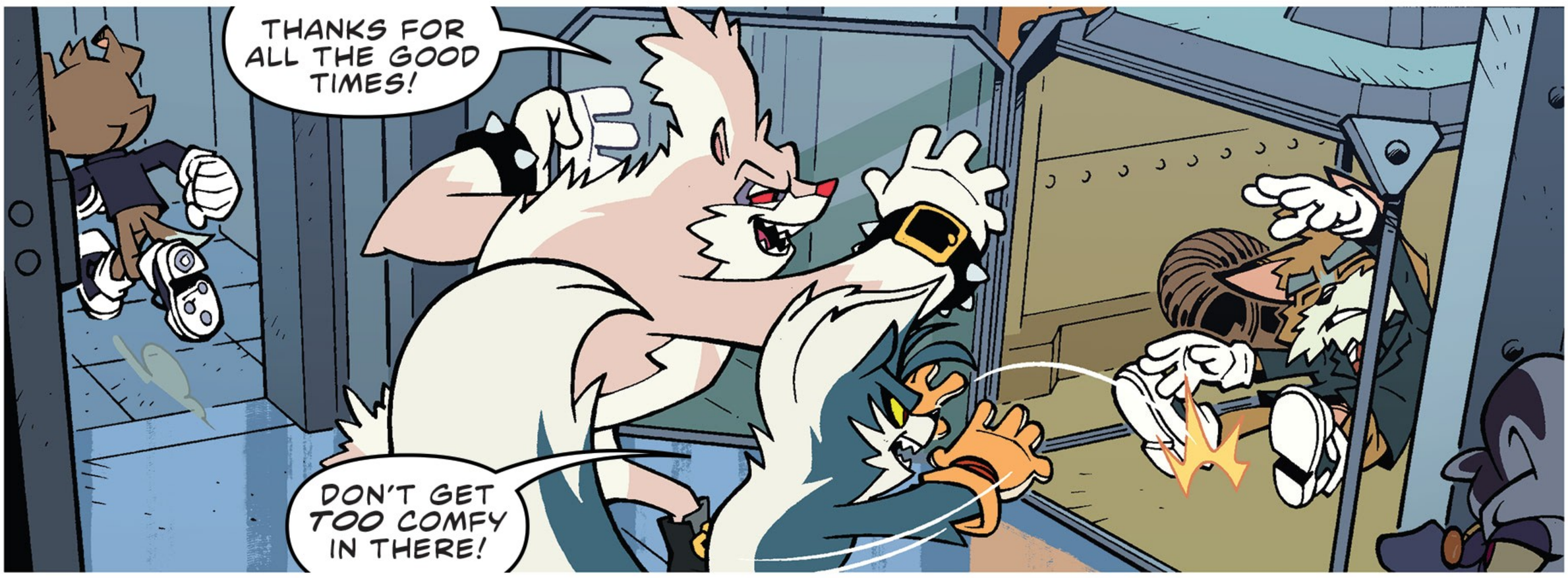
THE WHOLE PRISON IS NOW ON HIGH ALERT. NOT THAT YOU'RE GETTING OUT--THAT DOOR ONLY ANSWERS TO MY VOICE.
THANKS FOR THE NAP, THOUGH. IT WAS LOVELY.


AUGH!


MY HEEL-SPURS ARE LOADED WITH A MILD NEUROTOXIN. THAT WILL KEEP HIM OUT OF THE WAY. CAN YOU UNLOCK MIMIC'S CELL?
NOT FROM HERE. RELEASE ME! HURRY!

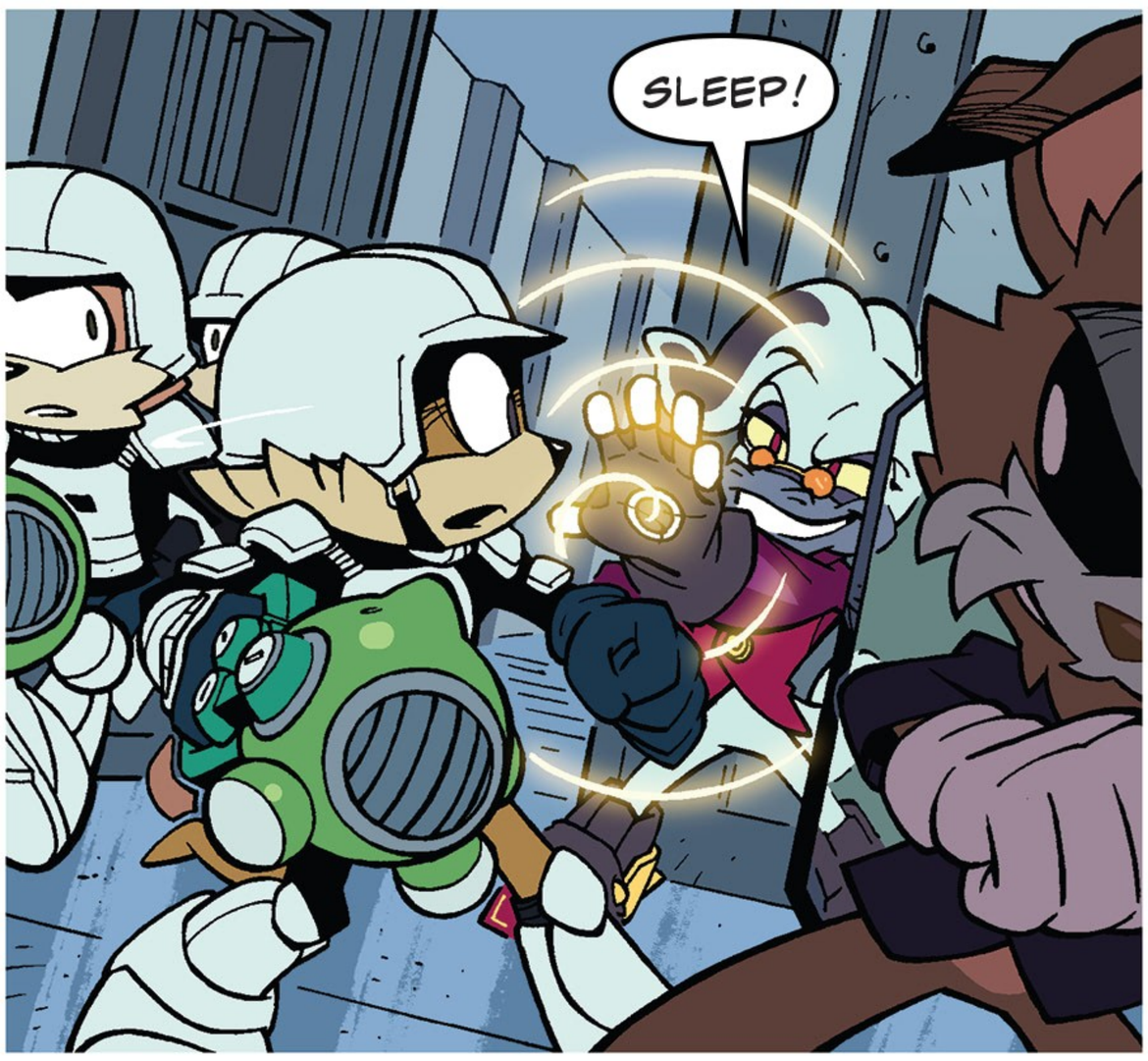
FINALLY!

SECURITY AUTHORIZATION BETA-GAMMA-ZERO-ONE.


THANKS FOR ALL THE GOOD TIMES!
DON'T GET TOO COMFY IN THERE!

WARDEN! WHAT'S GOING ON?
ZAVOK'S BREAKING OUT OF HIS CELL!

HE'S NOT OUT YET, BUT I NEED THE *THREE OF YOU* TO HELP ME PACIFY HIM!
YOU! YOU'RE WITH ME! *YOU TWO!* FOLLOW US!


SLEEP!

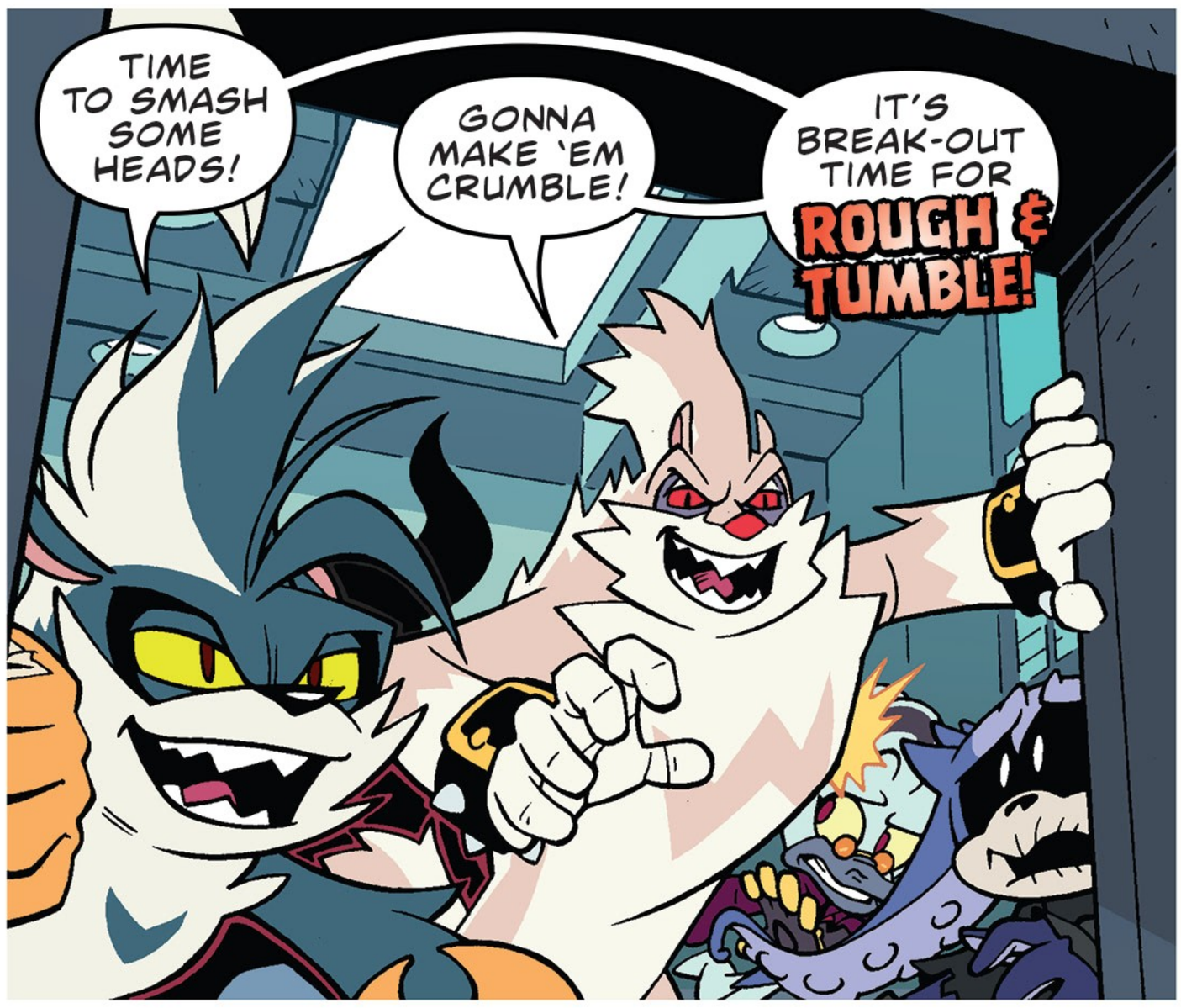
*
HANDS IN THE AIR!

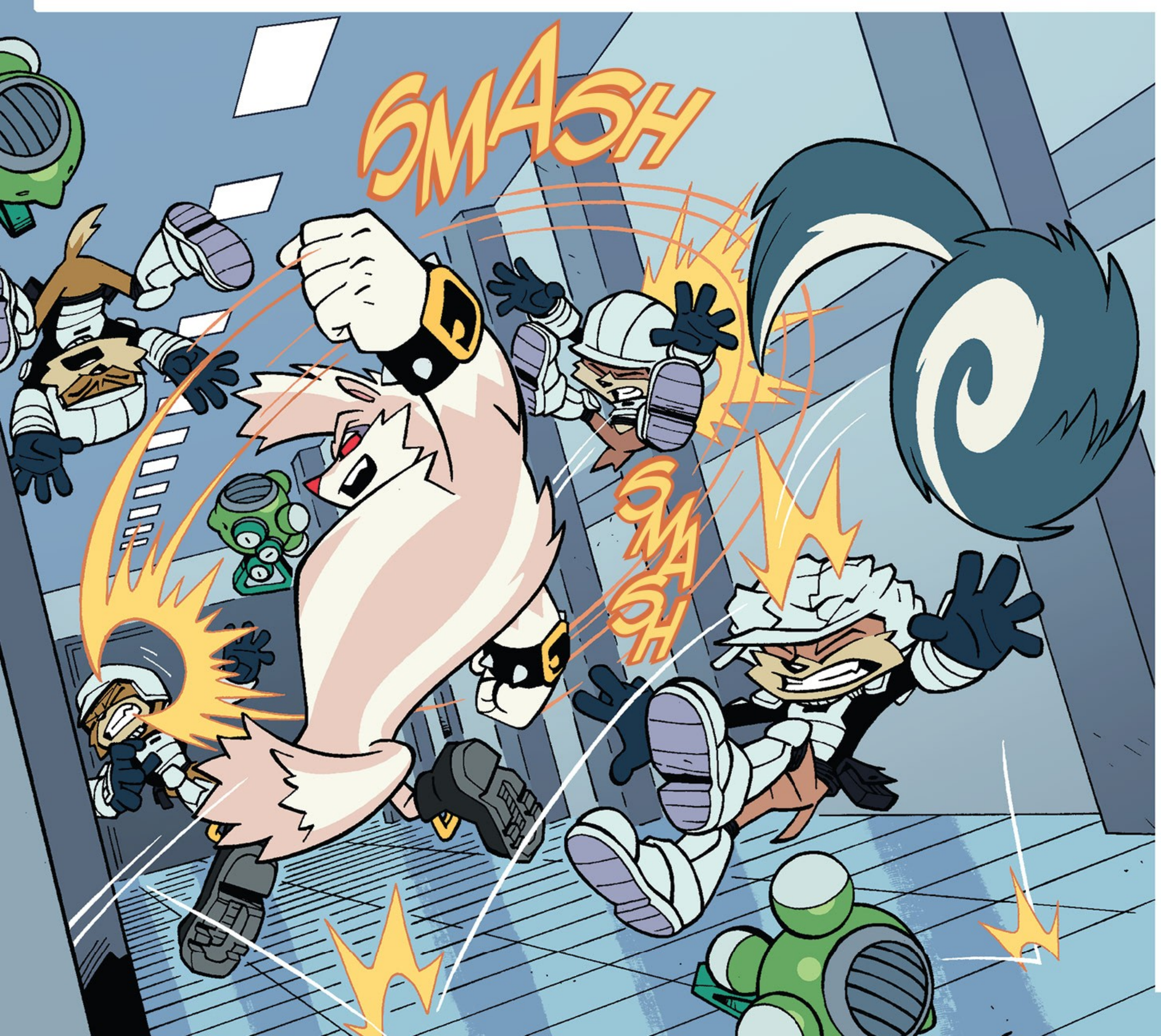
CLUD

WHY ARE WE RUSHING? USE YOUR HYPNO-GIZMO ON EVERYONE!
IT'S A PRECISION INSTRUMENT, NOT CROWD CONTROL.
IF WE'RE TO ESCAPE, WE NEED TO SHUT DOWN SECURITY AND--

HALT! SURRENDER IMMEDIATELY!

TURN INTO THE WARDEN! TELL THEM TO STAND DOWN!
THEY'LL SEE ME CHANGE, MORON! GET ZAVOK TO--!


TIME TO SMASH SOME HEADS!
GONNA MAKE 'EM CRUMBLE!
IT'S BREAK-OUT TIME FOR ROUGH & TUMBLE!

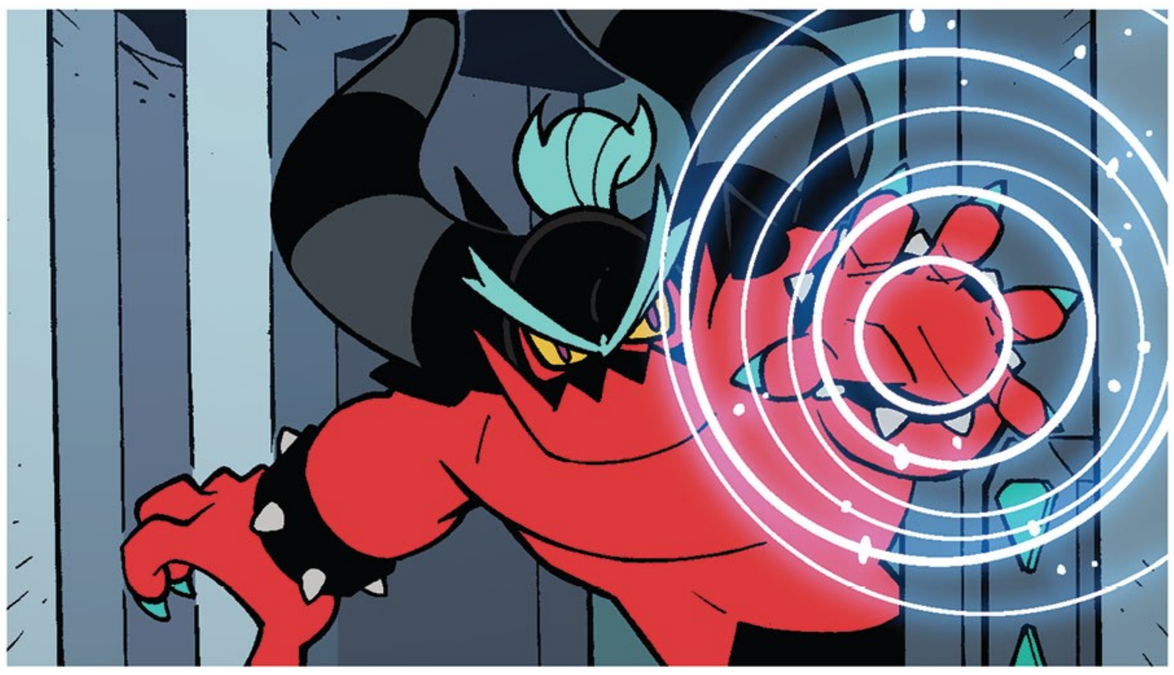

SMASH
SMASH

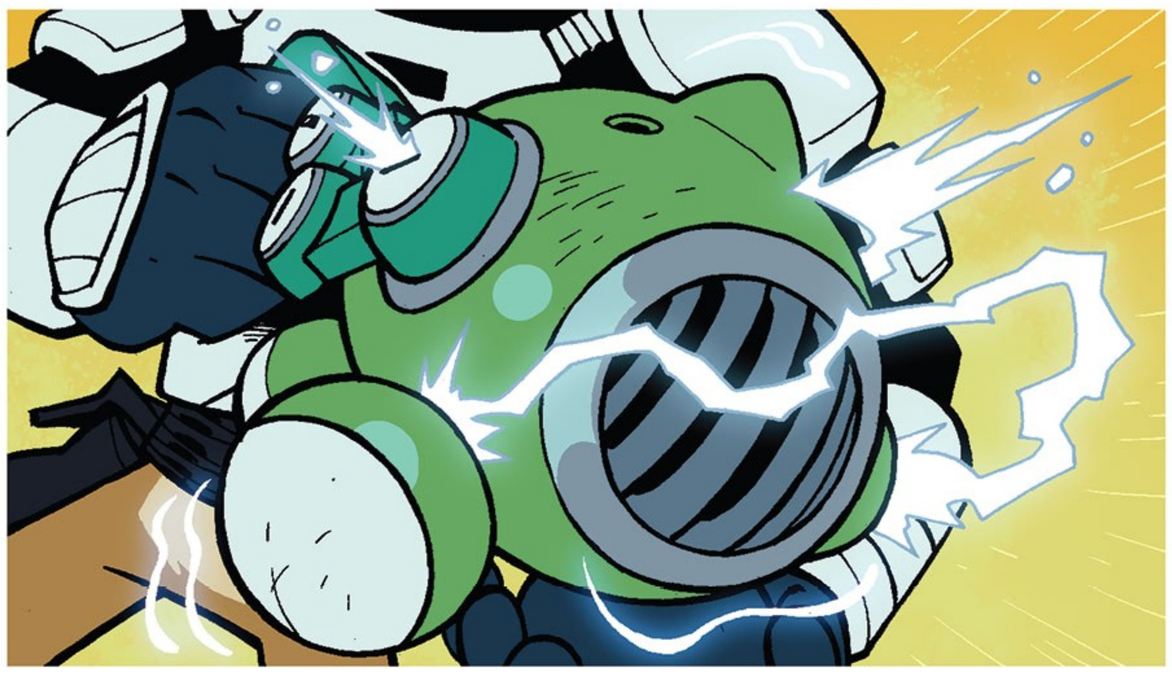
AS I WAS SAYING-- YOU COULD'VE TAKEN CONTROL OF THEIR WISPONS.
YES. BUT LET THEM PROVE THEIR WORTH.

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET! THAT'S WHAT YOU GET!
RAAAUGH!

UH...

WE NEED THEM FOR THE PLAN, SIR.
FINE. I SUPPOSE I MUST CODDLE YOU INFERIOR NON-ZETI.

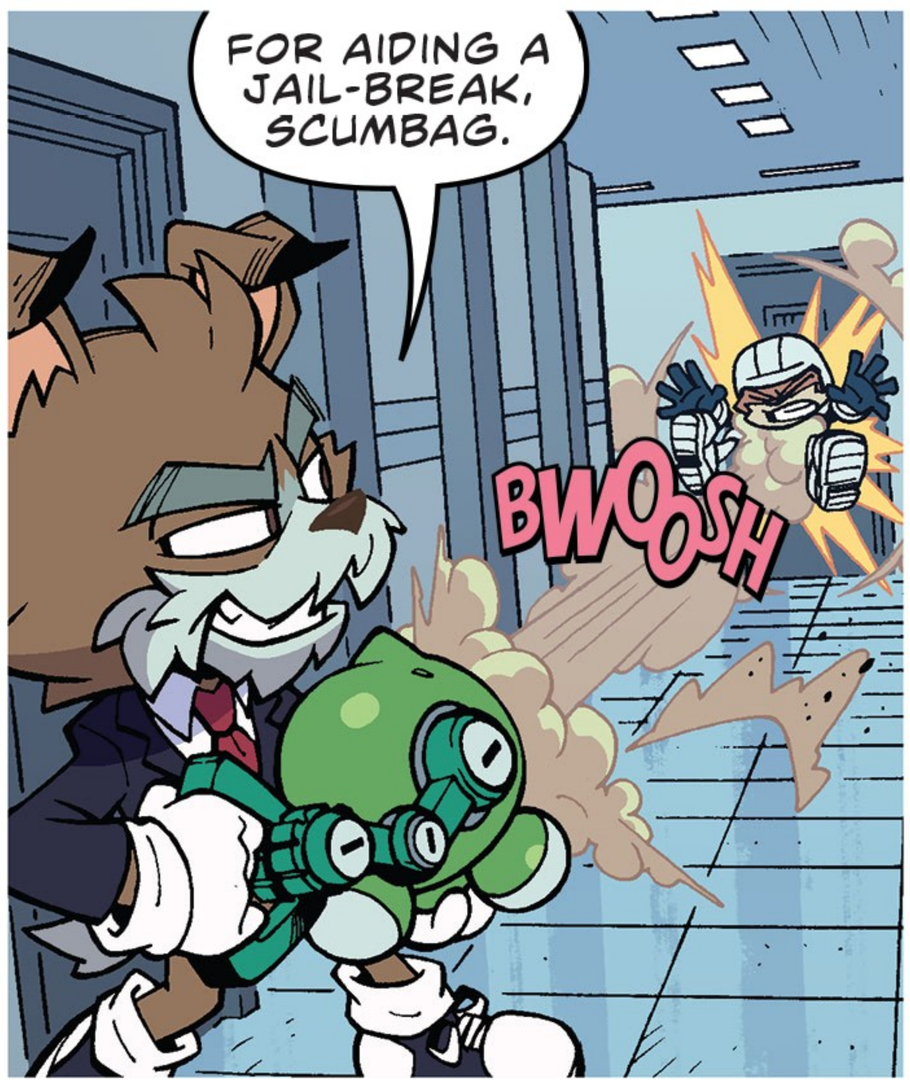




BWOSH

ONWARD, MY WARRIORS.
I'LL SCOUT FOR STRAGGLERS.

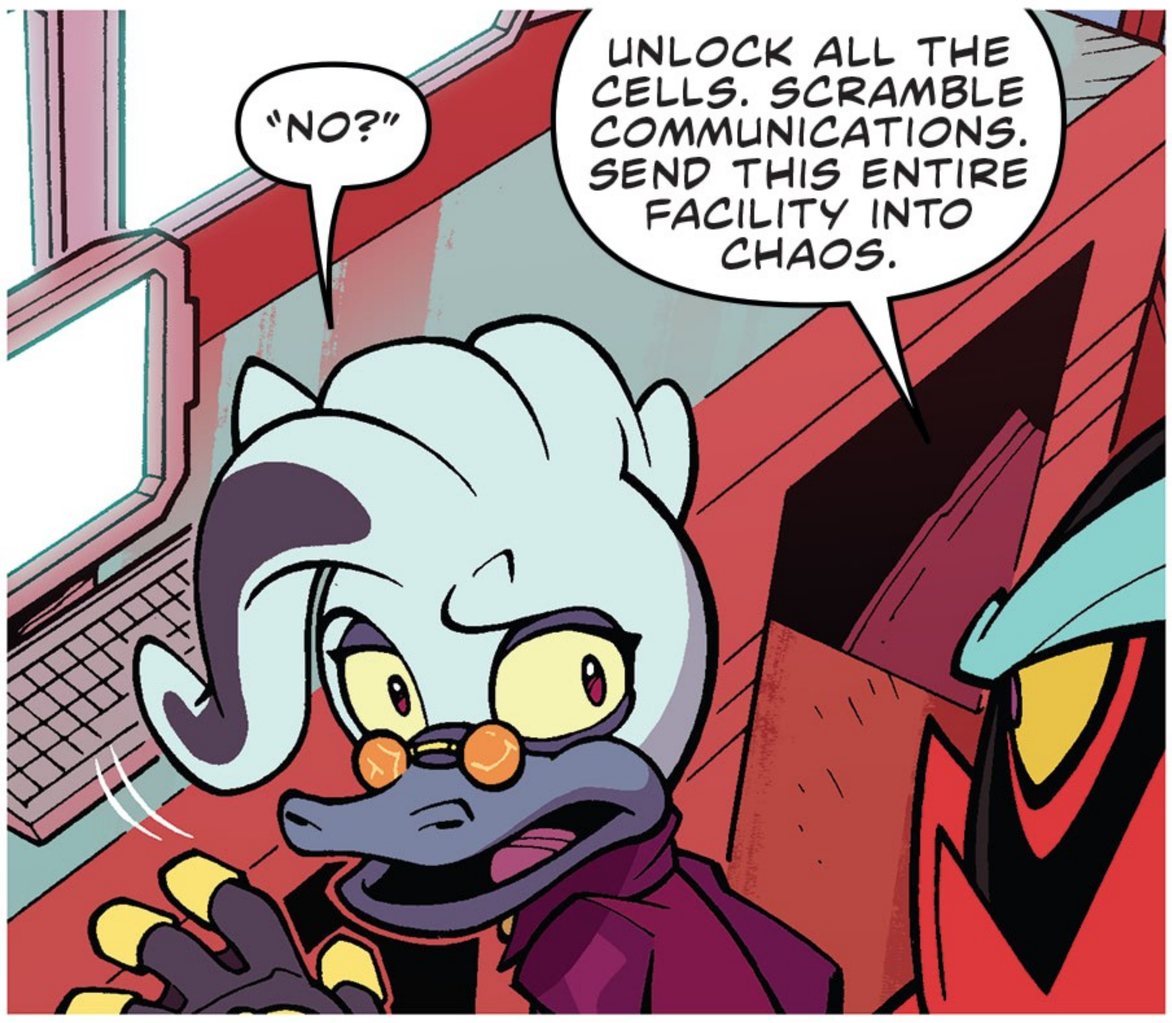
YOU. WISPON. NOW.
O-OF COURSE. B-BUT WHY--?


FOR AIDING A JAIL-BREAK, SCUMBAG.
BWOOSH

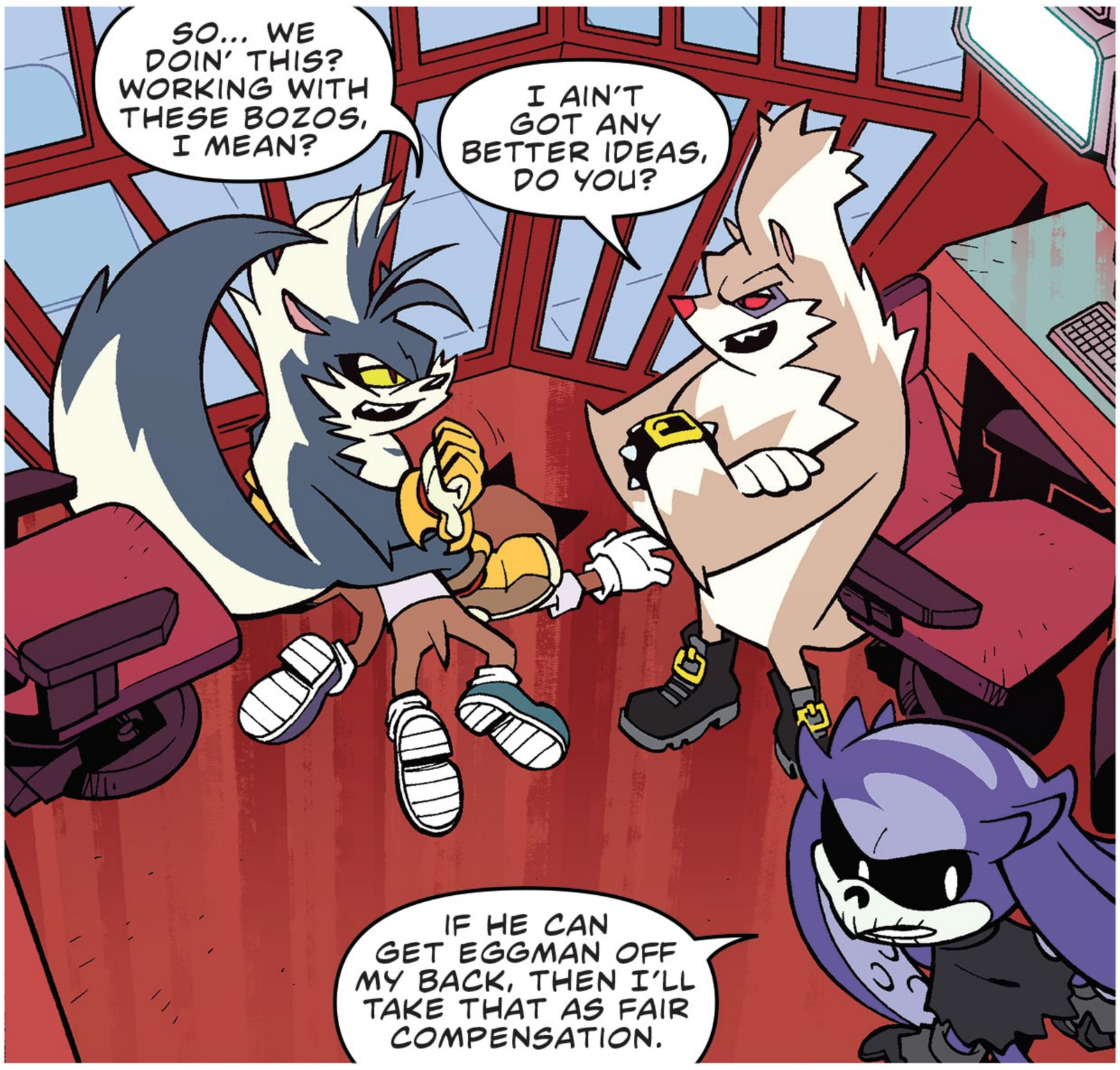
FOOLED YOU, EH?

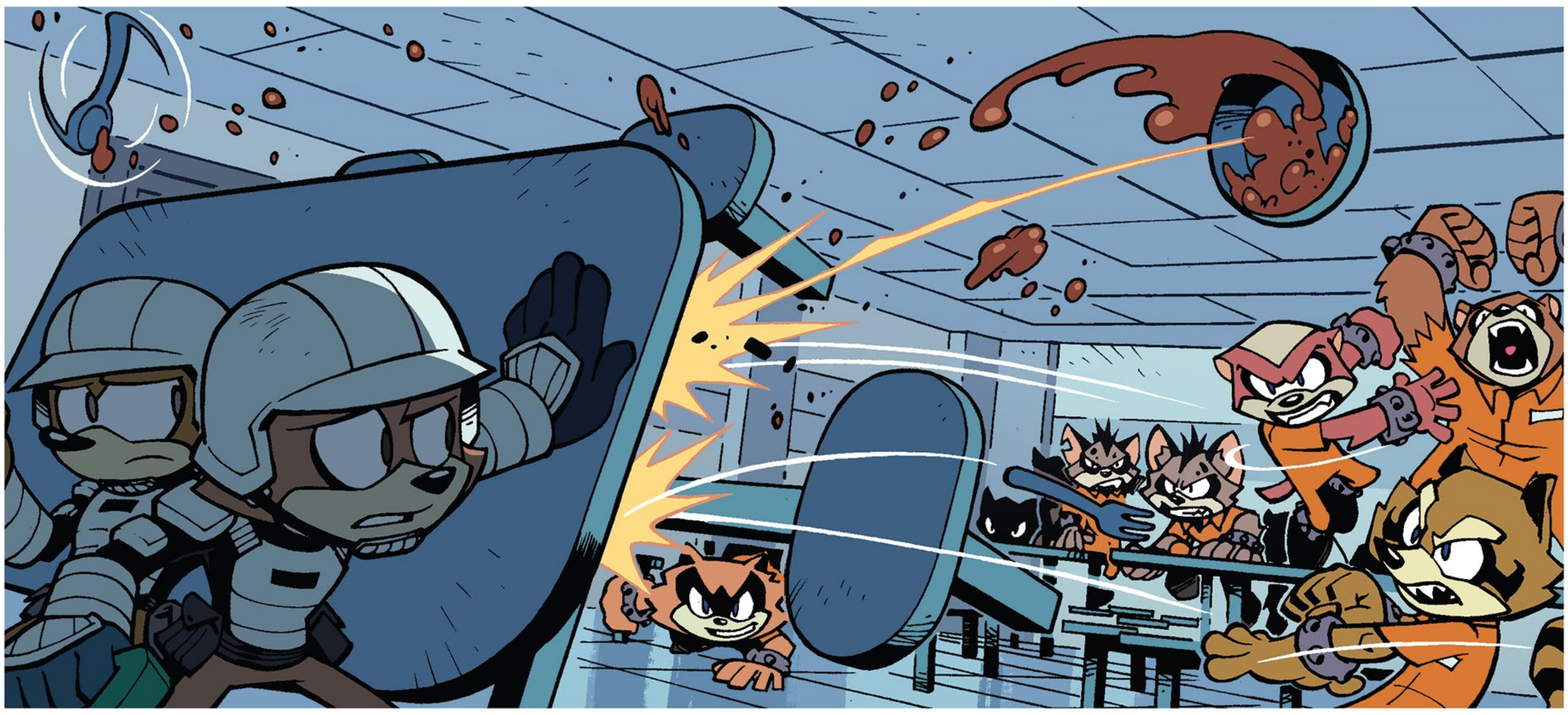
CONTROL ROOM SECURE.

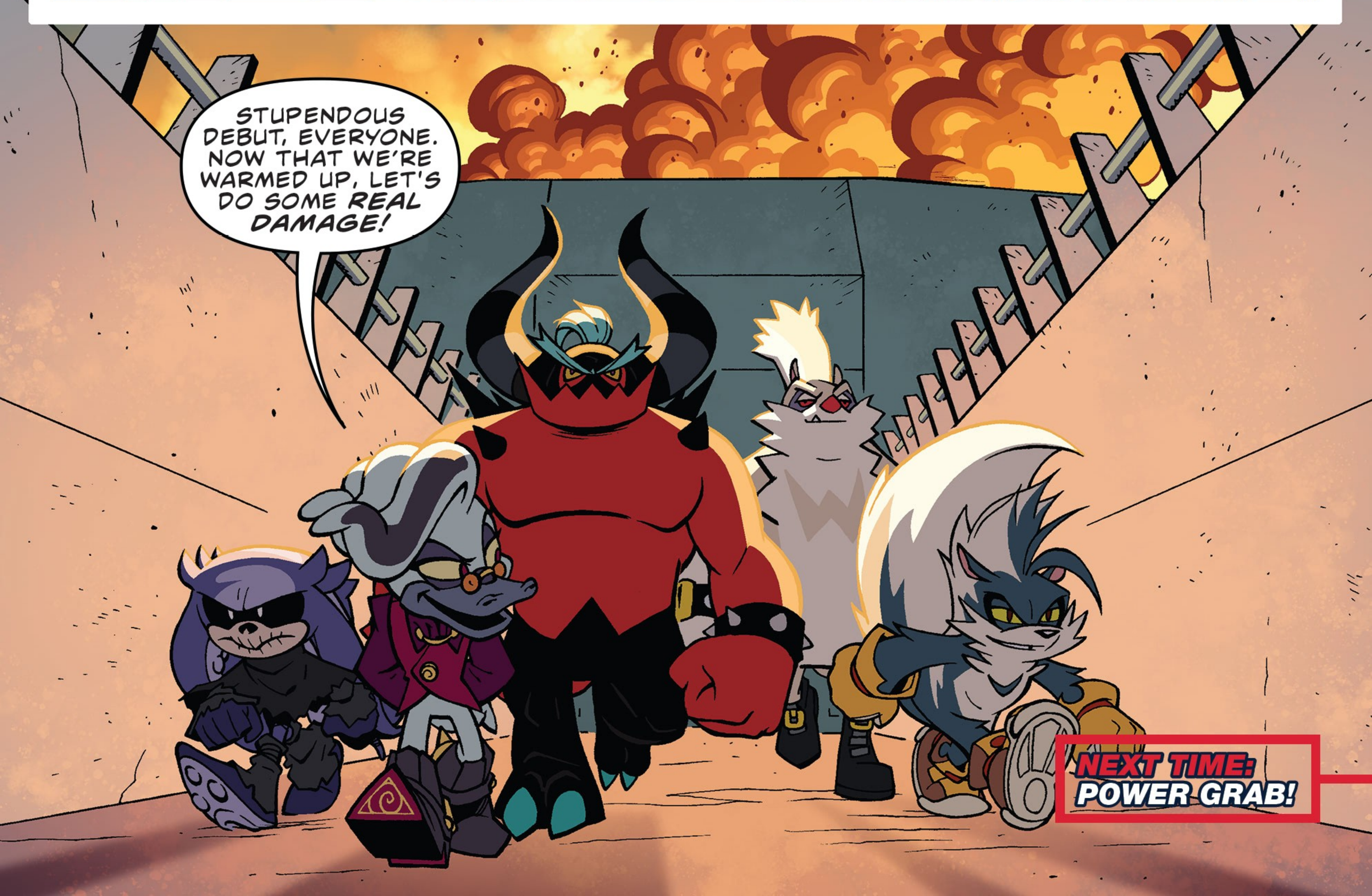
EXCELLENT WORK! NOW TO SHUT OFF THE ALARMS AND--
NO.


"NO?"
UNLOCK ALL THE CELLS. SCRAMBLE COMMUNICATIONS. SEND THIS ENTIRE FACILITY INTO CHAOS.

YOU'RE A VISIONARY, SIR.

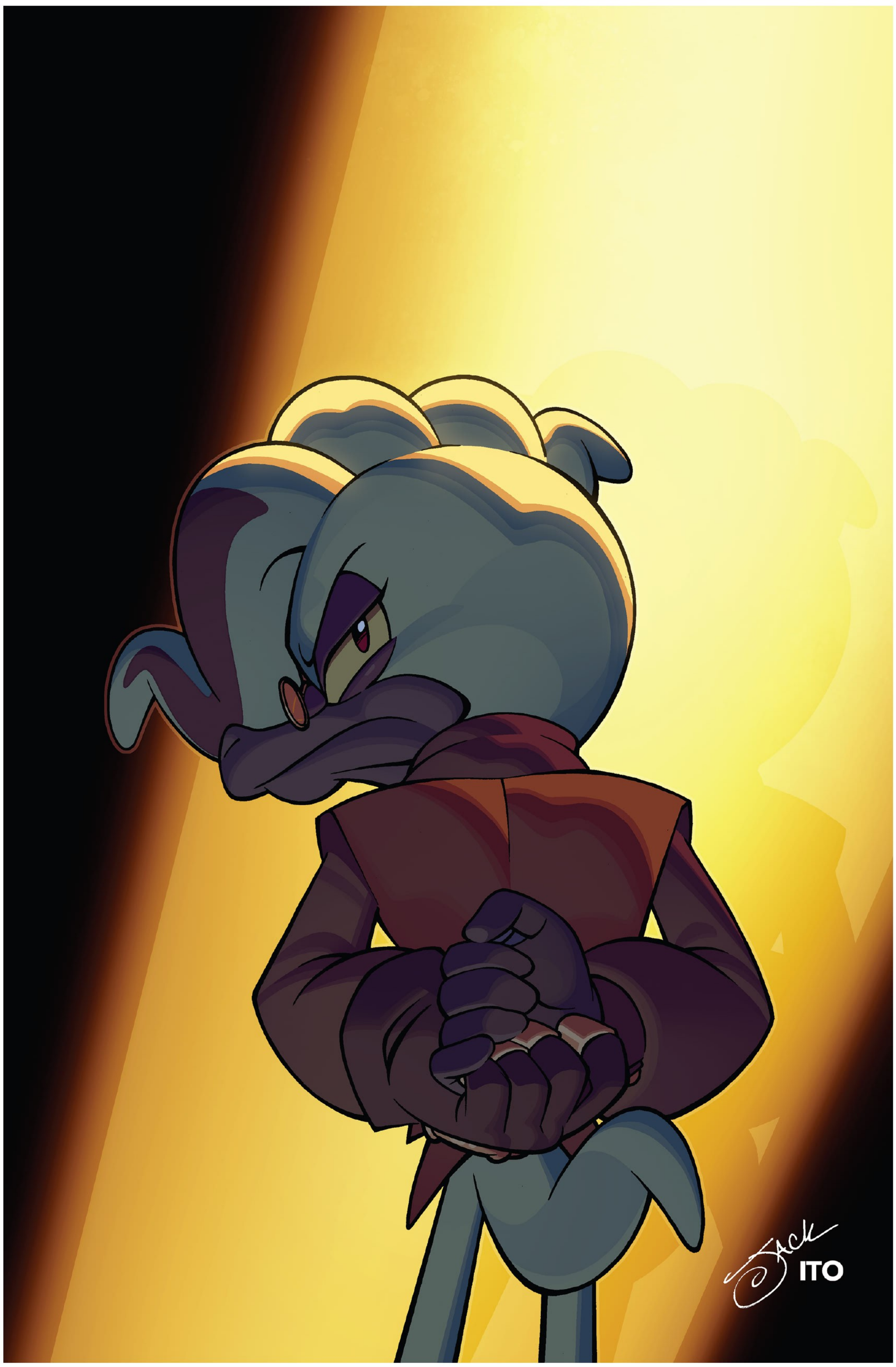

SO... WE DOIN' THIS? WORKING WITH THESE BOZOS, I MEAN?
I AIN'T GOT ANY BETTER IDEAS, DO YOU?
IF HE CAN GET EGGMAN OFF MY BACK, THEN I'LL TAKE THAT AS FAIR COMPENSATION.




STUPENDOUS DEBUT, EVERYONE. NOW THAT WE'RE WARMED UP, LET'S DO SOME REAL DAMAGE!
NEXT TIME: POWER GRAB!

ART AARON HAMMERSTROM COLORS REGGIE GRAHAM

ART DIANA SKELLY



ART JACK LAWRENCE COLORS LEONARDO ITO

ART BRACARDI CURRY COLORS MATT HERMS

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

Hello there, Squad! Uh-oh… the bad guys are out of jail and ready to wreak havoc on the world… Thank you for joining Ian Flynn, Jack Lawrence, Leonardo Ito, and Shawn Lee for "A Few Bad Men." Now, on to your letters featuring the bad guys themselves!

Hey IDW Sonic Squad!,

It's been awesome seeing Zavok and the other Deadly Six back in action! It's a twist I didn't see coming in the Zombot story. Looking forward to the new Sonic: Bad Guys comics. I've attached a piece of fan art I've done of Sonic and Zavok in a showdown.

Stay way past cool!,
Billy Kurtz

Hey, Billy!

The Deadly Six sure made curing the world even more difficult! Zavok's out of jail and working with Starline now, but I wonder what the other Deadly Six are up to? I'm sure Zomon is raiding every grocery store he finds… Maybe we'll catch up with them one day and Sonic and Zavok can have a

showdown like in your awesome picture. Hope you enjoyed Bad Guys!

Howdy Sonic squad!

I'm Lindsey, 16 but a massive fan of Sonic as far back as when I was 2-years-old watching Sonic X. All these years later and the series still sticks with me very strongly, in part because of these awesome comics you guys make! I always have the release date of the next comic marked on my calendar so I can pick it up ASAP and read it with my darling girlfriend as if it was a script. Since his debut I've especially loved the ever elegant and ever dastardly Dr Starline, due in part to my girlfriend's adorable voice for him. So imagine my excitement when I heard he was getting to star in a comic just for him and the other baddies!

These comics have given so much inspiration to us, it's unreal. I wish to be a cartoon producer in the future while my girlfriend wants to be a voice actress, both of which were helped by comics like these. Keep on rocking and we'll keep on buying your comics far in the future when we're busy wives!

ART BY EMILY

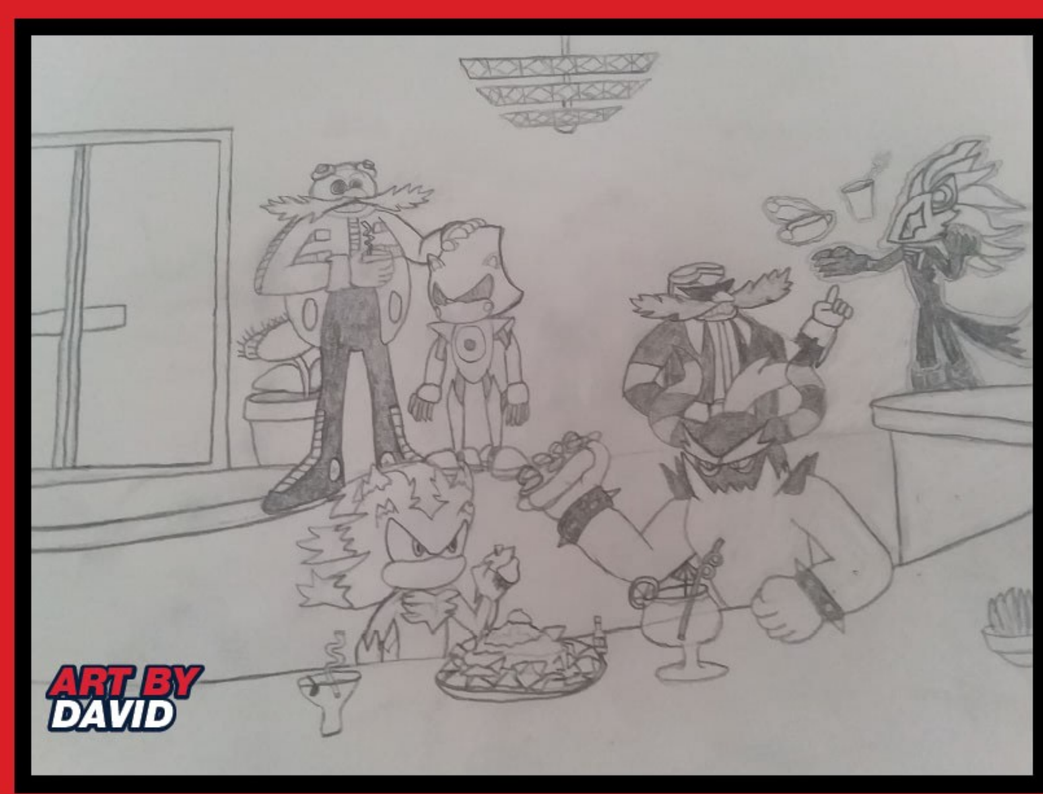
Stay awesome,
Lindsey

Howdy, Lindsey,

New comic book day at your house sounds so fun! I want to stop by to hear you and your girlfriend read the comic in all the different voices. If your girlfriend's Starline voice captures even half of the fabulosity of your picture, I'm sure it's amazing! It's really heartwarming to hear that the comics have inspired you both–I hope they continue to do so and I hope you two enjoy reading all of the villainous voices in *Bad Guys*.

ART BY LINDSEY

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your *Bad Guys* art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, find out if the bad guys can get along long enough to enact their evil plans!


ART BY DAVID

IDW
ISSUE
1
COVER A
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN
TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME SERIES YOU MAY LIKE...

WRITTEN BY **IAN FLYNN** PENCILS BY **TRACY YARDLEY** INKS BY **JIM AMASH & BOB SMITH**
COLORS BY **MATT HERMS** LETTERS BY **COREY BREEN**
EDITED BY **JOE HUGHES & DAVID MARIOTTE** PUBLISHED BY **GREG GOLDSTEIN**

Special thanks to Anoulay Tsai, Mai Kiyotaki, Aaron Webber, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

For international rights, contact **licensing@idwpublishing.com**

IDW®
www.IDWPUBLISHING.com

Greg Goldstein, President & Publisher • **Robbie Robbins**, EVP & Sr. Art Director • **Matthew Ruzicka**, CPA, Chief Financial Officer • **David Hedgecock**, Associate Publisher • **Laurie Windrow**, Sr. VP of Sales & Marketing • **Lorelei Bunjes**, VP of Digital Services • **Jerry Bennington**, VP of New Product Development • **Eric Moss**, Sr. Director, Licensing & Business Development

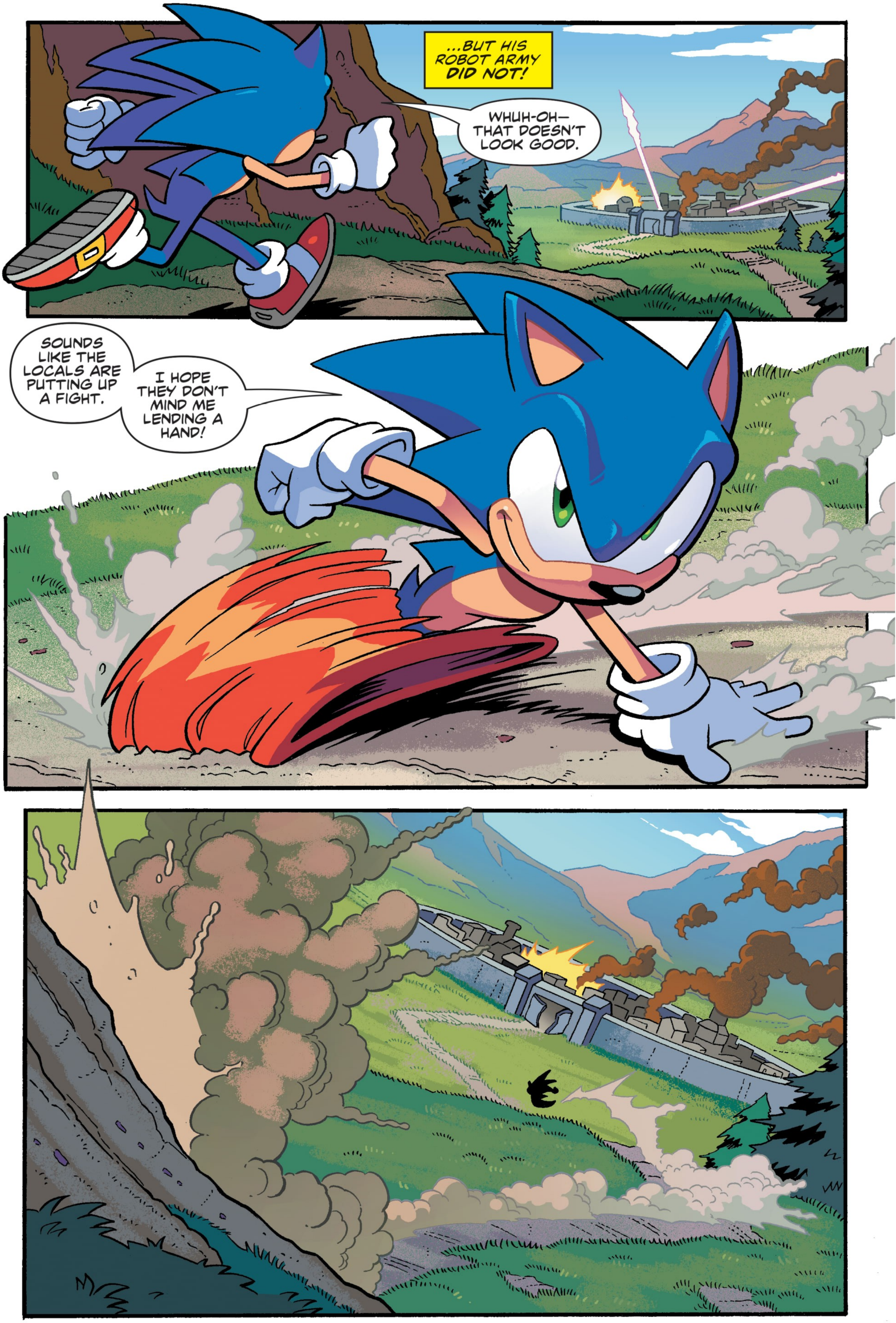
Ted Adams, Founder & CEO of IDW Media Holdings

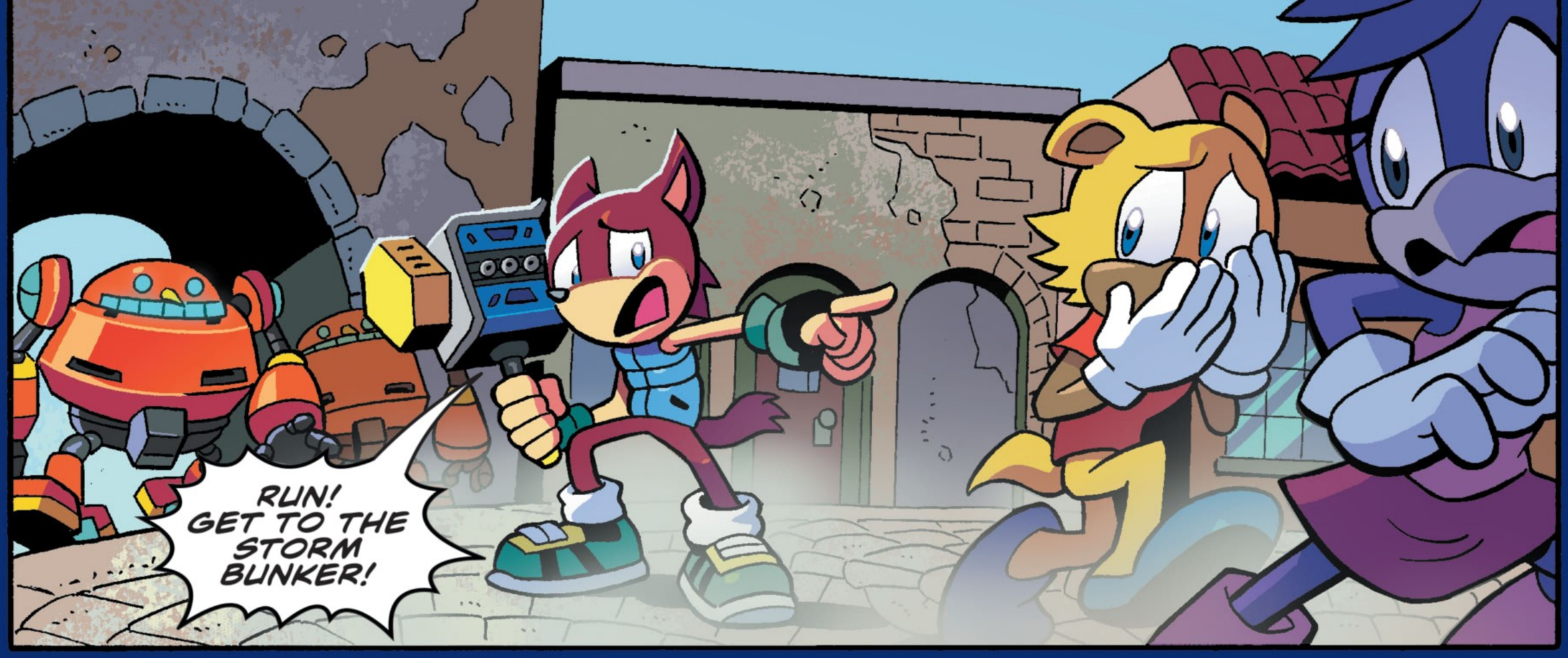
SEGA®

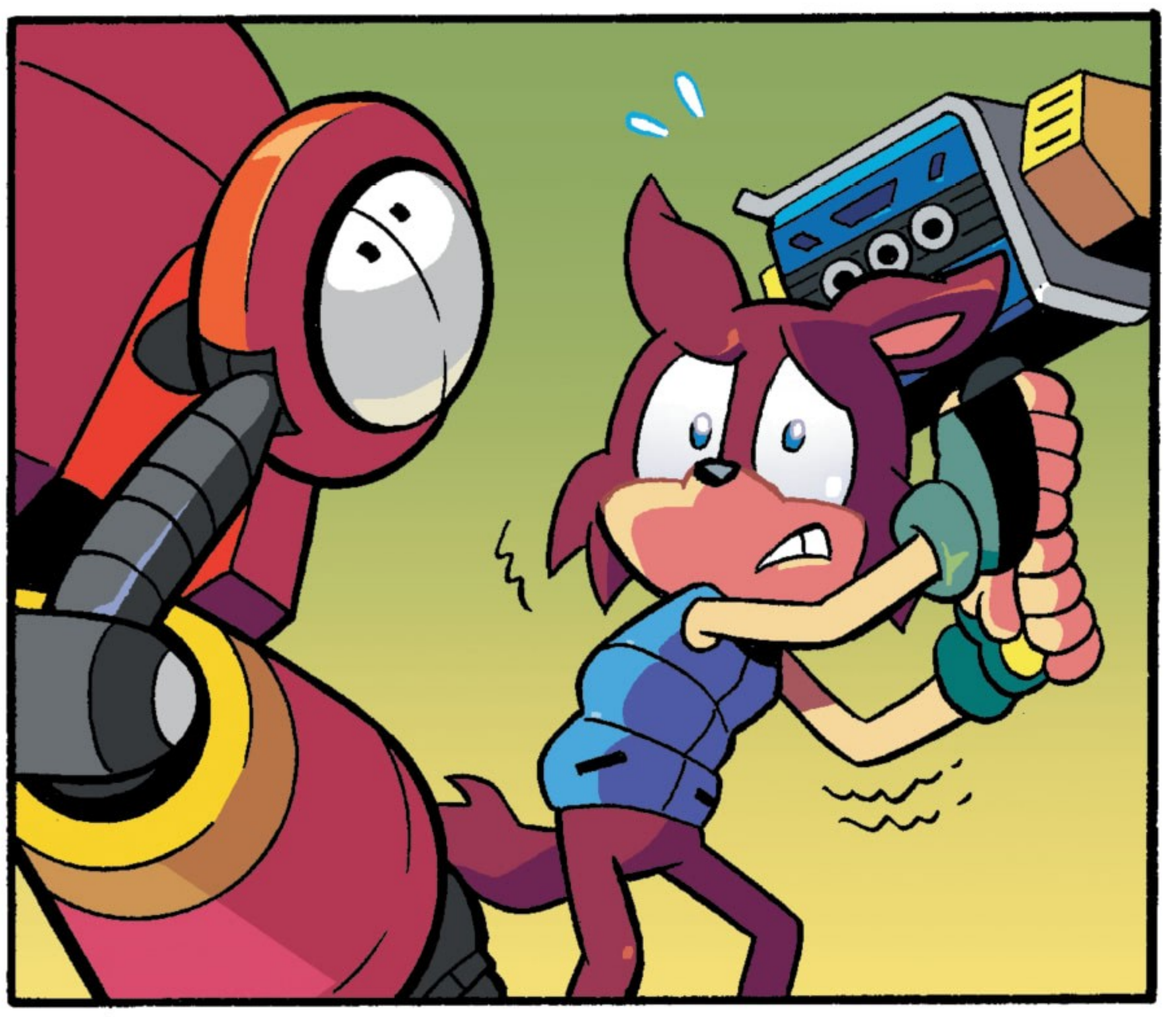
Facebook: **facebook.com/idwpublishing** • Twitter: **@idwpublishing**
YouTube: **youtube.com/idwpublishing** Tumblr: **tumblr.idwpublishing.com**
Instagram: **instagram.com/idwpublishing**

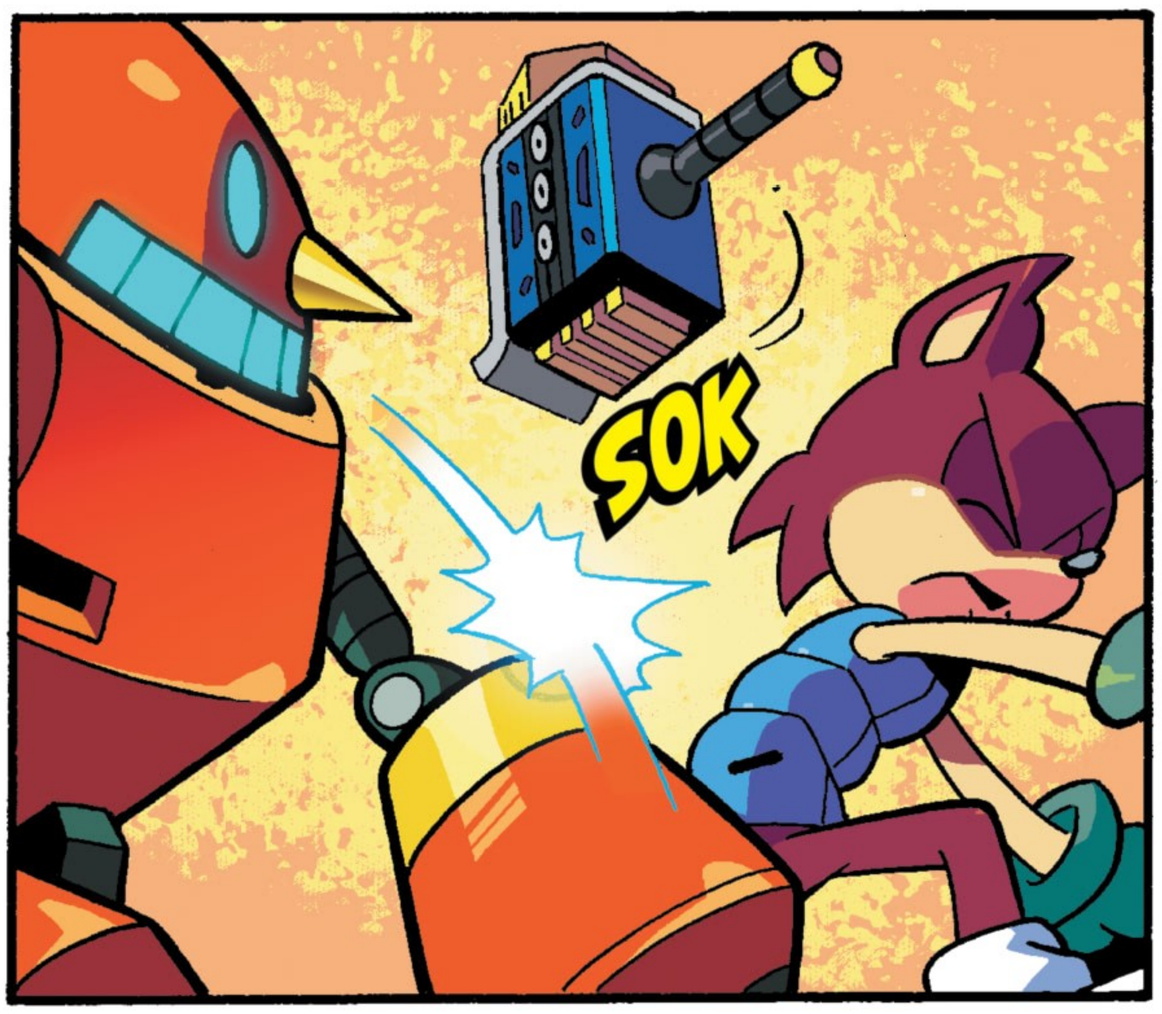
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #1. APRIL 2018. FIRST PRINTING. © SEGA. SEGA, the SEGA logo and SONIC THE HEDGEHOG are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA Holdings Co., Ltd. or its affiliates. All rights reserved. SEGA is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. All other trademarks, logos and copyrights are property of their respective owners. © 2018 Idea and Design Works, LLC. All Rights Reserved. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego, CA 92106. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Canada. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

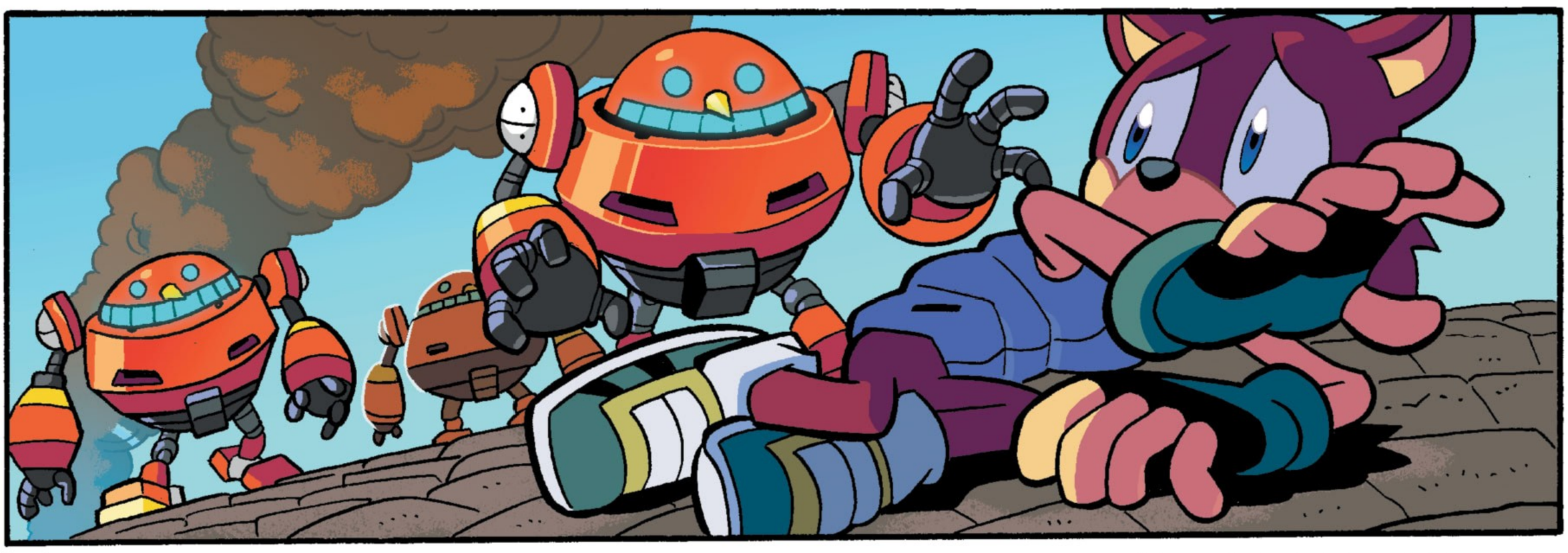
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG HAS SPENT YEARS FIGHTING THE FORCES OF DR. EGGMAN.
TIME AND AGAIN THE MAD DOCTOR ATTACKS, SONIC STRIKES BACK, THEN RELAXES UNTIL EGGMAN RETURNS.
BUT AFTER THEIR LAST BATTLE...
...DR. EGGMAN VANISHED...


...BUT HIS ROBOT ARMY DID NOT!
WHUH-OH— THAT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.
SOUNDS LIKE THE LOCALS ARE PUTTING UP A FIGHT.
I HOPE THEY DON'T MIND ME LENDING A HAND!


RUN! GET TO THE STORM BUNKER!

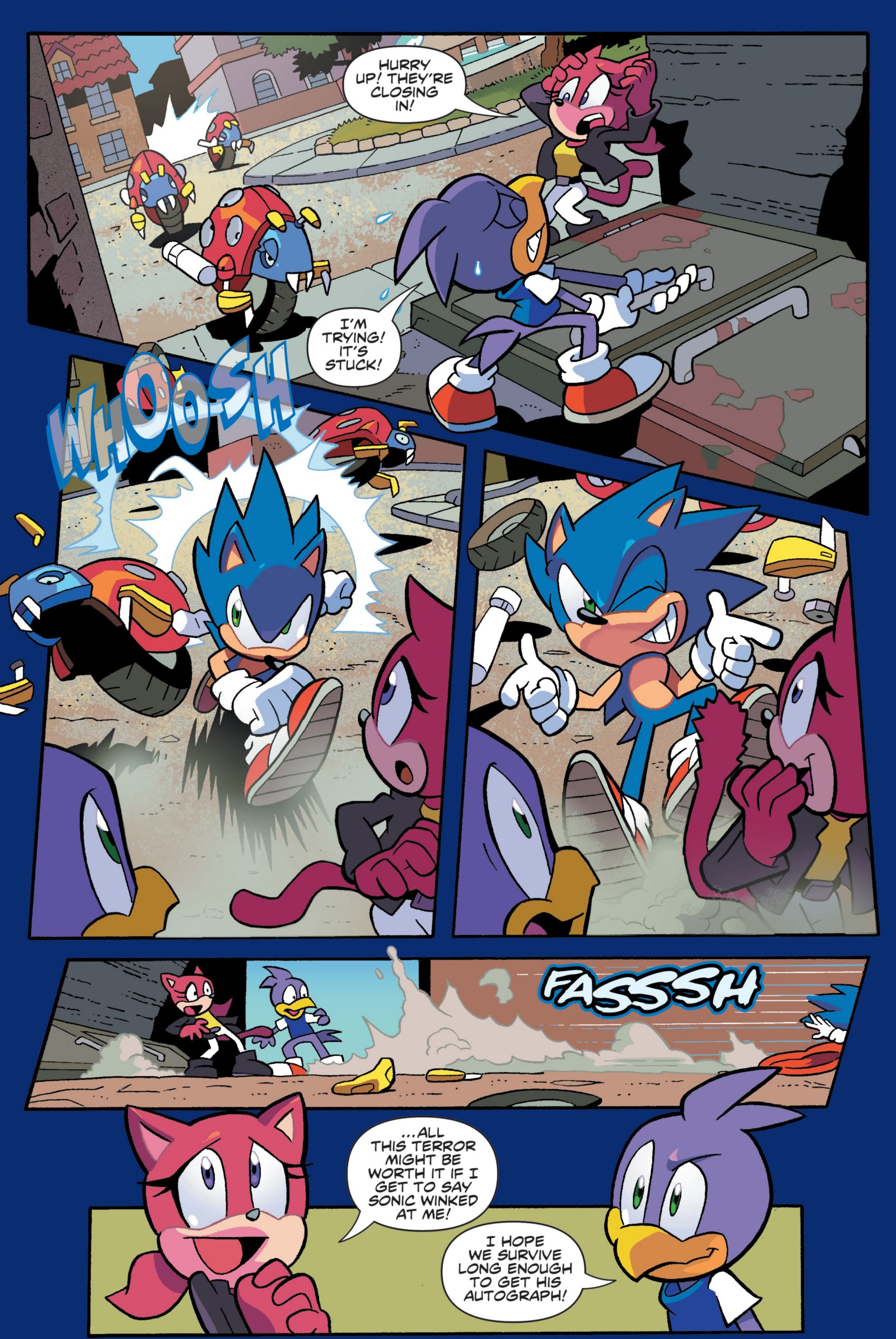



SOK



SMASH
SMASH

HEY! YOU HURT?
N-NOT REALLY. YOU'RE... YOU'RE SONIC!
THE ONE AND ONLY.
HERE YOU GO. TRY SWINGING IT AT THE ROBOTS NEXT TIME. I KNEW SOMEBODY WHO PUT IT TO GOOD USE.
YOU'RE... THE SONIC!
MAYBE GET INSIDE, BUDDY. NICE CHAT! NEED TO SAVE YOUR TOWN. BYE!
O-OKAY!
SWEET! THE TOWN MILITIA!
BOTS COMING IN FROM THE NORTH! YOU'VE GOT A GUY HOLDING HIS OWN OUT THERE!
O-OKAY! WE'RE ON IT!


HURRY UP! THEY'RE CLOSING IN!
I'M TRYING! IT'S STUCK!
WHOOSH
FASSSH
...ALL THIS TERROR MIGHT BE WORTH IT IF I GET TO SAY SONIC WINKED AT ME!
I HOPE WE SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GET HIS AUTOGRAPH!

IDW
ISSUE
1
COVER A
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
TO BE CONTINUED IN...
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #1